

## Archbishop to retire early

# Church faces battle after Runcie goes

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

The retirement of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, which was announced yesterday, launched the Church of England into a period of intense internal fighting and uncertainty, with its whole future at stake.

The battle for the succession is likely to be the most divisive this century and the Prime Minister will find himself having to arbitrate between factions who regard the possession of the church's leadership by their camp as vital.

Dr Runcie has to retire by his 70th birthday in October next year, and he took the occasion of the tenth anniversary of his enthronement to let it be known that he had decided to go nine months early, at the end of next January. Few in the church had expected the news so soon.

It is primarily the emotive issue of female ordination which will fuel the succession battle, with conservatives pressing for one of their own kind, possibly the present Bishop of Winchester, the Right Rev Colin James. Mrs Thatcher's immediate circle contains several Evangelicals, who would like to see an archbishop who would stress personal morality rather than social policy.

Such figures as Professor Brian Griffiths, head of her policy unit, and Mr John Gummer, Secretary of State for Agriculture — both active Anglican churchmen — are likely to figure in any informal

activity surrounding the Prime Minister's official role in the appointment.

Both would favour an archbishop who was conservative with both a small and capital letter, though among the candidates there are not many of the latter. Of all the bishops only the Bishop of Peterborough, the Right Rev William Westwood, has declared himself a government supporter.

In his statement yesterday, Dr Runcie said he had offered his resignation to the Queen now so that there would be sufficient time "for my successor to be known before the end of this year".

The first half of next year would be a time of fresh initiatives, he said, referring to the new structures coming into effect in the autumn to replace the British Council of Churches, of which he is president. He hoped his successor would also be able to attend the next World Council of Churches meeting in Canberra in February, and the Anglican primates' meeting in Belfast in April.

Warm tributes to Dr Runcie yesterday were led by Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster and a close friend. "I am personally very sorry that Dr Runcie is retiring. I have valued his friendship very much and have always enjoyed working with him."

The Bishop of Bradford, the Right Rev Robert Williamson, said: "The announcement is not totally unexpected but for those of us who have been working close with Robert Runcie it will bring a real degree of sadness. He has been a courageous and imaginative leader of the Church of England."

Mr Eric Heffer, Labour MP for Liverpool Walton, and an Anglican churchman, deplored the fact that the Prime Minister would have a hand in appointing Dr Runcie's successor. Dr Runcie, he said, had put the church on the side of the poor and oppressed.

Mr Harry Greenway, Conservative MP for Ealing North, said a successor was needed who would eschew politics — "and no more waffle".

The Prime Minister's Office will undoubtedly be heavily lobbied in the next few months by Conservative MPs hoping to influence the selection process. She will keep them at bay by pointing to her strictly limited role, but the room for her influence is

considerable. On this occasion she has to appoint the chairman of the Crown Appointments Commission — normally chaired by one of the archbishops — and her patronage secretary, Mr Robin Carford, will be one of the two secretaries to the commission.

In that way Downing Street can be kept in touch throughout the process, and would be in a position to send informal signals as to the acceptability to the Government of certain candidates. The commission has to submit two names to her, and she can either forward one to the Queen or ask for two more.

Because the Archbishop of Canterbury is also primate of the Anglican Communion, the secretary general of the Anglican Consultative Council will also sit on the commission on this occasion.

The rest of the Anglican Communion would certainly demand a fair hearing for non-English candidates, and this fact alone favours the chances of the Archbishop of Armagh, Dr Robert Eames, who has taken a leading role in Anglicanism outside England. If it was felt necessary for the sake of overseas Anglican opinion to forward the name of a non-Englishman, it would almost certainly be his.

Significantly, supporters of Dr Eames have been claiming for some time that they detect signs of Mrs Thatcher's support for him.

Unless the Archbishop of York reverses his decision not to be a candidate, the field is wide open with no obvious favourites, and at least 11 names are in circulation.

With the Bishop of London due to retire next year also, a consolation prize is also available. One of the reasons Dr Runcie timed his announcement now is thought to be so that his succession can be decided before the successor to Dr Graham Leonard in London has to be considered.

Dr Runcie said after presiding at a communion service in Canterbury Cathedral yesterday: "It has been rather fashionable recently to say 'I am going in order that I can see more of my family'. There is an element of truth in that. I am going to do the washing up. I might even still keep an eye on some 20 black pigs which I have looked after for a group of handicapped children."

Active retirement, page 2  
Years of controversy, page 2  
Great achievement, page 12

## Under-18 student loans scheme is unlawful

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

More than 100,000 undergraduates will be exempt from paying interest on part of their student loans from September because of an oversight by civil servants.

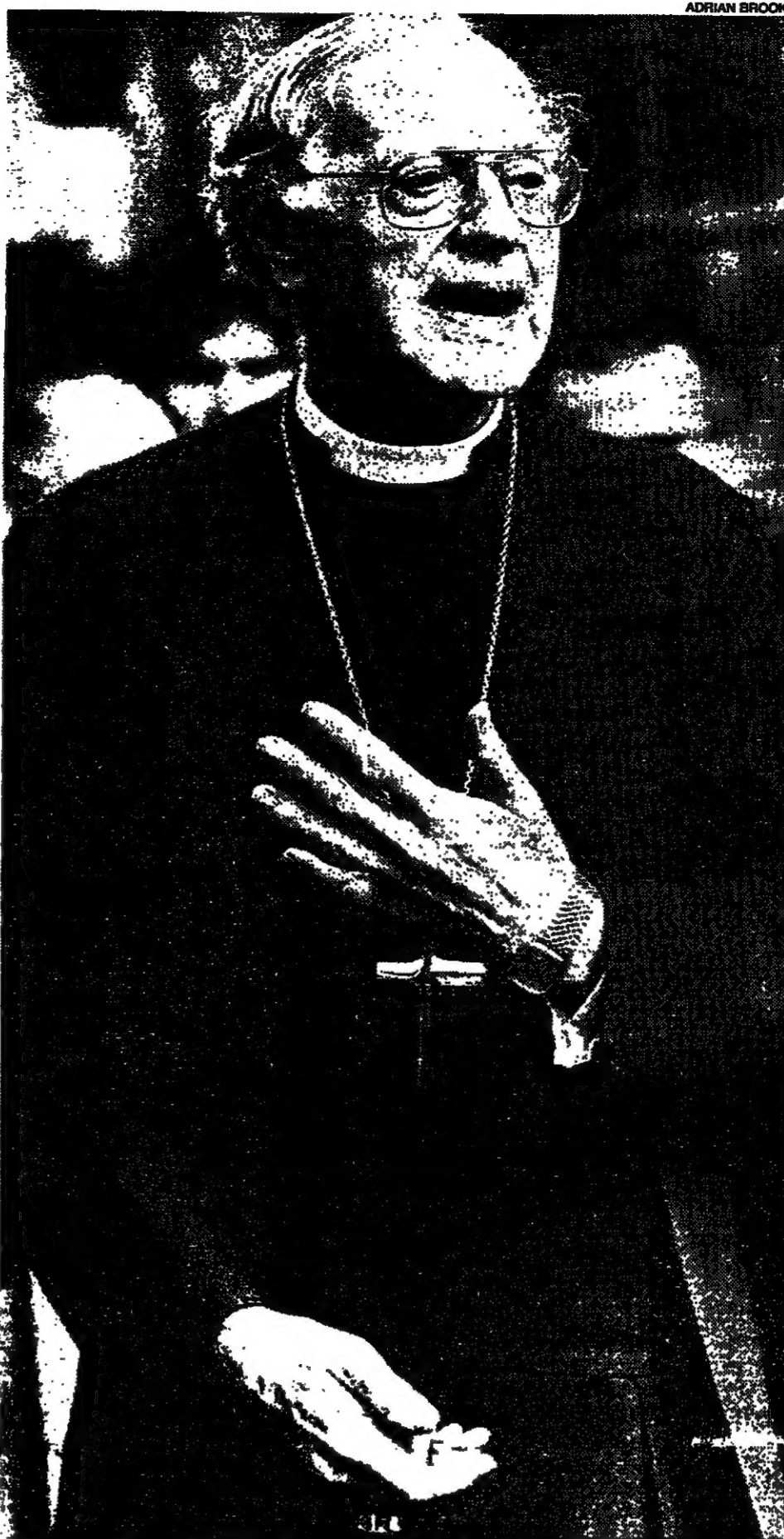
In the haste to get the Student Loans Bill on the statute book, parliamentary draughtsmen overlooked the fact that it was unlawful to charge interest to minors.

The 1974 Consumer Credit Act also makes it an offence to solicit loan business from those aged under 18, a measure which would have prevented student loan literature

being sent to sixth formers about to embark on degree studies.

In an attempt to end the confusion, which has caused embarrassment at the Department of Education and Science, amendments will be tabled when the Bill's report stage opens in the House of Lords today.

Provisions will be inserted exempting students who have not yet reached their 18th birthdays from paying interest and will give the Government immunity under the Consumer Credit Act



Bowing out: Dr Runcie outside Canterbury Cathedral after his announcement yesterday.

## Soviet general warns of clashes in Baltic

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

General Valentin Varennikov, Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Land Forces, who is in Lithuania, warned yesterday that the situation in the rebel Lithuanian Supreme Soviet building in Vilnius, Soviet denials that force would be used seemed to grow fainter yesterday.

In an interview headed *Threat to Democracy*, published on the front page of the official daily, *Sovetskaya Rossiya*, the general accused the Sajudis movement of preparing to wage psychological war on a terrified population following the Lithuanian parliament's declaration of independence two weeks ago.

General Varennikov's warning came as the Communist Party central committee in neighbouring Estonia voted to follow the Lithuanian party in ending its allegiance to Moscow. The Popular Front movements in all three Baltic states vowed to support Lithuania's declaration of independence.

The Estonian central committee voted by 432 to three, with six abstentions, to leave the Soviet Communist Party, but more than 200 — mainly ethnic Russians — refused to take part and are likely to form a pro-Moscow party. The Estonian party said, however, that it would not immediately seek independence.

Although there was no report over the weekend of

Friday night's incident, when more than 100 military vehicles drove in convoy past the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet building in Vilnius, Soviet denials that force would be used seemed to grow fainter yesterday.

Mr Yuri Kashlakov, a senior Soviet diplomat, said in Portugal that Moscow would do everything possible to avoid force. "For the time being, we are not using any force in the republic and we will try to keep that line. But what will happen, I don't know."

General Varennikov, too, expressed the hope that the use of force could be avoided. The accusations he levelled against the Lithuanian leadership, and against Sajudis in particular, suggested, however, that he saw little room for compromise. Emphasizing what he said was the deep concern felt by the majority of Lithuanians about the rift with Moscow, the general accused Sajudis of "seizing all the mass media", of preparing to free existing prisoners and replace them with "all communists" and pro-Moscow "dissidents" and of encouraging conscripts to desert.

General Varennikov's interview was the strongest attack on the republic's independence to have appeared in the central press, but is by no means the only one. The daily *Rabochaya Tribuna* published an interview with a secretary of Lithuania's small pro-Moscow Communist Party who condemned Sajudis for departing from its programme and rushing to independence.

However, the more liberally inclined *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, yesterday published an interview with Mr Algirdas Brazauskas, the head of the independent Lithuanian Communist Party, who regretted that the Lithuanian party had left it so late to split from Moscow. He expressed support for the policies of the republic's new leadership, noting the poor electoral showing of his party.

'Provocation' fear, page 8  
Crackdown by proxy, page 12



General Varennikov: Blames Vilnius for state of tension.

## Ministers rally to Thatcher's cause

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Senior ministers rallied to the Prime Minister's side yesterday as she faced one of the toughest weeks of her 11 years in power in the wake of the Mid Staffordshire by-election humiliation and weekend opinion polls showing Labour enjoying a record lead of up to 28 points.

Mr John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said she was "one of the most remarkable politicians for centuries" and predicted she would lead the Conservatives to victory in the next election and for some time thereafter.

Other Cabinet ministers also dismissed speculation that Mrs Thatcher would come under such intense pressure from disaffected backbenchers that she would be forced to step down.

"I am confident that she has the support of a large majority of the parliamentary party," one senior figure said.

Nevertheless, with backbench anxiety over the community charge due to surface anew in the Commons in debates tonight and on Thursday, Mrs Thatcher is clearly in for a rough ride.

Today, she meets Mr Kenneth Baker, the Tory chairman, to assess the immediate response to the disastrous events of the past week and to plan a counter-attack.

The first fruits of that meeting and other discussions with Cabinet colleagues will

be seen on Saturday at the Conservative Central Council meeting in Cheltenham. Mrs Thatcher is likely to use the occasion to emphasize her determination to remain at the helm and give renewed impetus to her administration. She will urge her party to concentrate its fire on Labour.

A Central Council debate on Friday is certain to act as a focus for grassroots Tory anger over the way the community charge has been implemented and the speech by Mr David Hunt, the Minister for Local Government, will be closely watched.

A far-reaching reappraisal of the community charge is now under way in Whitehall, with attention centring on ways of revising standard spending assessments to avoid a big surge next year in charge levels in the crucial period before the next election.

More immediately, Mr Chris Patten, the Secretary of State for the Environment, has to decide how extensive charge-capping should be this year.

Backbench Tory MPs are demanding a tough line, but some ministers are arguing that that capping will further undermine the accountability principle of the poll tax, a point made yesterday by Mr

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Shadowy campaign, page 6  
Leading article, page 13

## 87 killed in New York club blaze

From James Bone, New York

Fire swept through a crowded dance club for Latin American immigrants in the poor Bronx section of New York early yesterday, killing at least 87.

One witness said he heard gunfire shortly before the fire started and an unconfirmed report said petrol cans had been found in the building.

The bodies of 61 men and 26 women were pulled from the Happy Land Social Club in East Tremont district. Mr David Dinkins, the Mayor of New York, who visited the area, said an eviction notice had been issued to the club in December or January.

The two-storey brick building, which housed a Dominican group that organized children's baseball as well as adult events, covered an area

of only 20 ft by 50 ft. Most of the victims died of smoke inhalation, trapped among a group of tables on the first floor when the fast-moving fire broke out at 3.41 am.

A Fire Department spokesman said the blaze had been declared "suspicious" but refused to comment on the report that petrol cans were found.

More than 100 firemen from 22 stations took two and a half hours to control the fire. Mr Robert Johnson, the Bronx District Attorney, who was at the scene, said: "If in fact it was arson, it was homicide."

The one known survivor is in hospital after being found wandering in the street, suffering from 30 per cent burns.

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## Things that go bump in the middle of the road

By Brian James

Those Britons who feel that motoring began to go downhill when, in 1896, the law was repealed that required all automotive contraptions to be preceded by a man with a red flag, will take comfort in plans to calm the pace of the country's roads.

Among the options to be considered in May by Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, is a 20mph limit in residential areas, and a sly way to enforce it. An army of "sleeping policemen" to enact an on-the-spot penalty of wrecked suspensions is preparing to take up its beat.

Mr Parkinson will easily demonstrate the need for action: warm evenings that tempted children out to play last autumn resulted in a sharp rise to 143 child deaths in street accidents.

High-street followers of the Mansell-Senna Tendency will argue: "Down to 20 mph? They kidding? It's a miracle if we get UP to twenty what with all these women drivers. . . . Anyway, with the brakes on my F-Reg 4X-turbo I can stop from sixty on a sixpence." The counter from the pram-pushing, sick-propped classes, who insist that most motorists could plausibly list their home address as "... of Toad Hall", will be that a 20mph zone will be no more honourable than any other of the statutory limits that replaced the stately-pacing red flagman.

It is no coincidence that the name of the man who gave the 1900s trophy for races between cities also became a general term of abuse of the period: "Gordon Bennett" pedestrians would screech, diving for the hedge. Even the highly-respected Royal Automobile

Club was seen, when it began, as a way of banding together to play games to flout this law.

The enforcement of these 20mph limits (a return to a similar margin imposed in 1903) would not be left to conventional policemen in unmarked Cavaliers. Councils, now freed from D of T regulations, may construct as many of these humps as they wish, positioned at junctions, before bus-stops and bends and even, in certain circumstances and well-marked with warnings, astride dual carriageways.

This is a powerful weapon for councilors, who until now could do little more than the rest of us to get action from the Government when traffic black-spots darkened their district. Lights and crossings at places where danger threatened seemed only to be granted post mortem.

Now a half-ton of corporation

tarmac and a half-day with the council steamroller will see a hump in place, local voters made happy, and all urban racers left facing this choice: either slow down, or go for the rally-ace's "yump" with the certain consequence of costly bills for replacing sump or exhaust . . . and possibly panel-beating out of the car-roof the dents made by the head.

These plans will of course be resisted. As with past legislation on crash-helmets and seat-belts, as with coming proposals to harness rear-seat passengers to overcome the menace of ballistic grannies, some weird concept of civil liberties will be called in aid. Mass motoring has opened up the lives of millions. But it has also ended too soon the lives of too many for a sensible minister to be deflected from the most sensible restrictive measure since . . . well, about 1896.

Now a half-ton of corporation

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# Runcie looks to active retirement

By Ruth Gledhill

Dr Runcie, the good shepherd of the Church of England, is going to turn pigman during his retirement, he said yesterday, soon after tendering his resignation to the Queen.

The time he will find on his hands will be spent on his family, as a lecturer on Hellenic cruises, watching cricket and, no less a joy perhaps, tending his Berkshire pigs.

Visibly elated after presiding at a rousing communion service in celebration of his 10th anniversary in office, and gave a hurried press conference under the cold and windswept portals of Canterbury Cathedral on his way to Sunday lunch with his family at the nearby Old Palace, his official residence in the city.

Inside earlier, the 300-strong congregation had heard music and lessons which had been sung and said at services in the cathedral on the day of Dr Runcie's enthronement.

In keeping with the tradition of senior public figures announcing their resignation, he had on one arm his wife Rosalind, who is suffering from bronchitis, and on the other their daughter, Rebecca, aged 27.

He said: "I have got a wife and I have got a family and I have not seen very much of them. It has been rather fashionable recently to say, I am going in order that I can see more of my family. There is an element of truth in that."

He said that it would now be his wife, a music teacher by profession, who went out to work, while he stayed at home to do the washing up.

He continued: "I might even still keep an eye on some 20 black pigs which I have looked after for a group of handicapped children." The Archbishop bought the 20 black Berkshires for the children's farm in Aldington, near Romney Marsh, Kent.

Dr Runcie and his wife will live in St Albans. His first task, he said, would be to "unpack and sort out my books, and sell off all the furniture I have needed in order to live in two large houses. I will unclutter my life and spend some time peacefully and quietly."

"I shall swim. I will take up my interest in Greek history. I will, I hope, lecture again on Hellenic cruises, which I used to do. I shall watch cricket."

He said that he was resigning now because he had been in office for 10 years. "I think it is time to withdraw and hand over to somebody else. That takes a bit of time in the Church of England."

On the future of church affairs, he predicted "a decade of evangelism" and "new arrangements for ecumenical co-operation in this country."

He said that his chief hope before he retired was to meet and talk again with Mr Terry Waite, his kidnapped envoy. "My dearest wish would be that Terry and I could meet and talk again."

Dr Runcie said that he had no regrets about his controversial comment last year that Britain was in danger of becoming a "Pharisee society". He said: "I certainly don't regret what I said." What he did regret was "the way that it was taken out of context and misused."

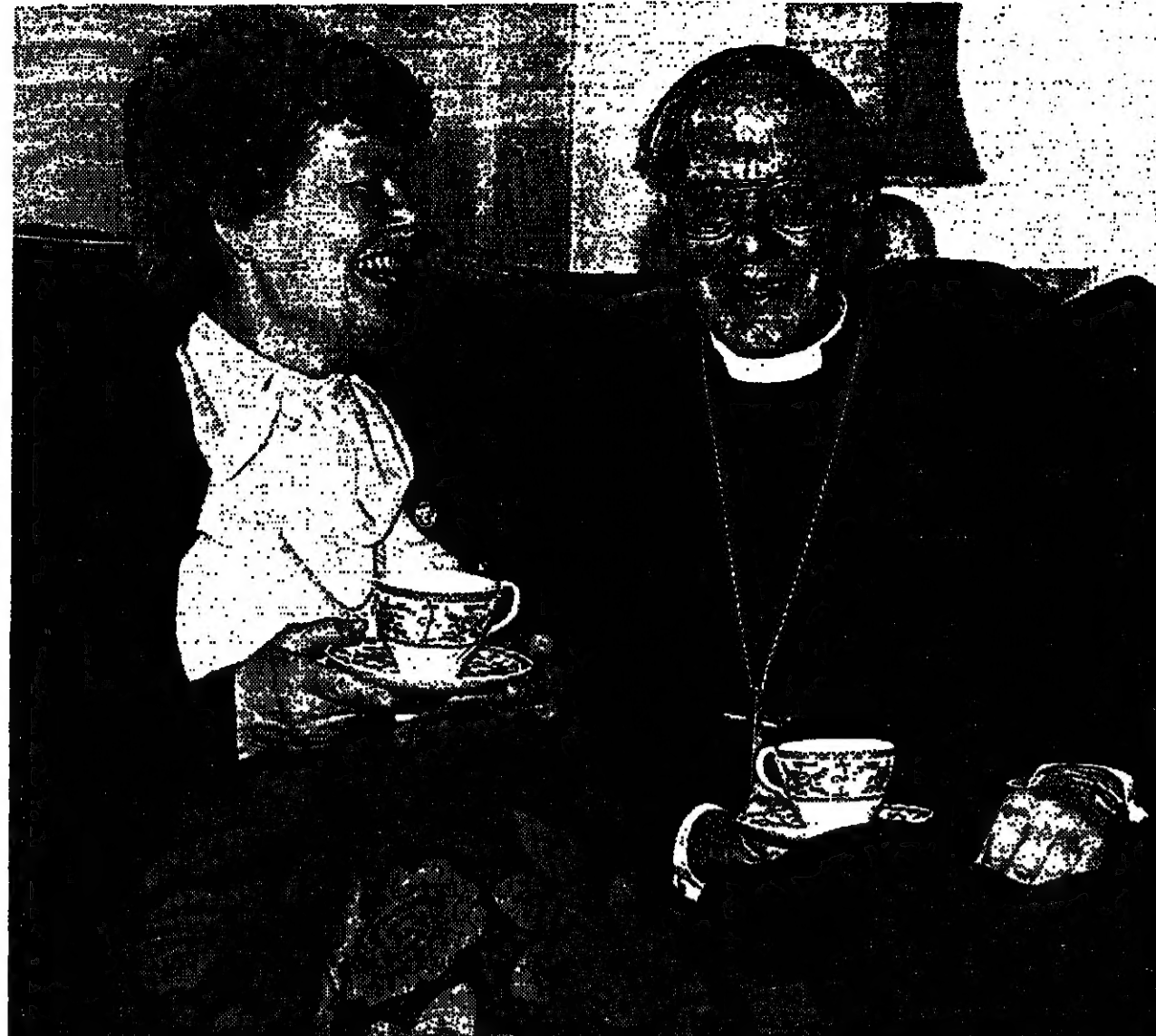
Of his successor, he said: "I hope the Government will be looking for a person who is suited to lead the church of this country and lead it in the Anglican communion and co-operate with other Christian bodies." Whoever his successor is, he should have the courage to speak out for his beliefs, he said. After years of speculation about his retirement, both the Archbishop and his wife appeared relieved to have the matter out in the open.

Mrs Runcie, who has attained world-wide renown in the Anglican communion for transforming the large garden at Lambeth Palace, said: "We are very happy where we are, but there is the future to think of."

For other bishops' wives, visits to the garden were among the highlights of the Lambeth Conference in 1988. Mrs Runcie said: "I will be sad to leave the garden at Lambeth Palace but I hope I will be allowed back there. And we have not left it yet."

As if in tribute to the historic announcement, the cathedral clock above the Archbishop and his wife stayed stopped yesterday at about ten past six. This was due to no act of God, however, but to an accident which occurred while making the weekend's summer time change.

Great achievement, page 12  
Leading article, page 13



Dr Runcie relaxing with his wife, Rosalind, at their home in Canterbury yesterday.

## Ten years of controversy and triumph

By Mark Souster

The Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Robert Runcie's tenure at Lambeth Palace has been dogged by controversy.

The 1980s was a decade in which the Government and the Anglican Church appeared diametrically opposed on many social issues and when the Church of England was in the nation's mind at least, the moral opposition to the Government. However his primacy will also be remembered for several personal triumphs.

March 1980: Dr Runcie enthroned as 102nd Archbishop of Canterbury, succeeding Dr Donald Coggan.

May 1982: Pope John Paul II received at Canterbury Cathedral.

July 1982: Government anger at Falklands memorial service in St Paul's Cathedral which was felt to be insufficiently triumphal. Dr Runcie said in his sermon: "In our prayers we shall quite rightly remember those who are bereaved in our own country and the relations of the young Argentinian soldiers who were killed."

September 1984: Dr Runcie criticized handling of the miners' strike and said Government should stop treating its opponents as "scum".

October 1984: Concern expressed at Government economic policies, saying on plight of poor and unemployed: "How long can we wait for jam tomorrow?" He called for leadership to "unite not divide the nation."

December 1985: *Faith in the City* report inspired by Dr Runcie published. It criticized

the state of inner-city, inner-city schooling and employment opportunities. Dismissed by one Government source as Marxist theology.

January 1987: Personal envoy Terry Waite disappeared in Beirut attempting to gain release of Western hostages; an event which has caused him most personal anguish.

December 1987: Dr Runcie supported Bishops' refusal to ordain any practising homosexuals.

March 1988: Under fire from all sides for saying homosexual priests could live together if they did not have a sexual relationship.

July 1988: Lambeth Conference attended by 600 bishops regarded as a personal triumph for Dr Runcie who presided and set the agenda.

October 1989: Spoke of emergence of the "Pharisee society" of self-interest and intolerance in Britain.

September 1989: Visited Pope John Paul II in Rome to confront breach with the Roman Catholic Church over female ordination.

November 1989: Voted for the ordination of women measures in the General Synod. March 25 1990: Announced resignation with effect from January 31, 1991.

## At least 11 churchmen are under serious consideration to fill post

By Clifford Longley  
Religious affairs editor

At least 11 senior churchmen can expect their claims to succeed Dr Robert Runcie as Archbishop of Canterbury to be considered seriously.

All but one are English, and the non-English one, Dr Robert Eames, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, is likely to find himself on any short-list if only to placate opinion in the rest of the Anglican Communion.

Robert Eames, aged 52, Archbishop of Armagh since 1986, has let it be known that he is available. The Prime Minister is said to see him as suitable. He is, like all Anglican Ulstermen, low church, but has made friends and gained influence with Irish Roman Catholic Church leaders. He has been a moderating influence on Ulster Unionism.

Dr Eames was appointed by Dr Runcie in 1988 to preside over an international commission in the Anglican Communion on female ordination. There is no hotter seat in the church, and Dr Eames loves every minute of it. He favours women priests.

John Habgood, aged 62, Archbishop of York

since 1983, has said that he is too old. He is, however, one of the most intelligent bishops in the Church of England by far, and he raises difficult questions: medical ethics, nuclear power, the church-state-nation triangle, and moral values in a pluralist society.

He is also fairly tough and a rigorous thinker. He handled brilliantly the recent difficult negotiations with more than 30 churches in Britain, including the Roman Catholic Church, for a body to replace the British Council of Churches. He favours women priests.

Colin James, aged 63, Bishop of Winchester since 1985, is fourth in the Church of England hierarchy (London, Winchester and Durham enjoy automatic seniority after Canterbury and York). He has a warm, avuncular manner which comes over well on television, and indeed was himself once a television producer. He is conservative on doctrine, which would bring him Evangelical support, though he is in fact an Anglo-Catholic and will be the standard bearer for the ambitions of that party (roughly a third of the Church of England). Sources close to the Prime Minister say that he is well thought of

politically. He bitterly opposes the ordination of women.

Mark Santer, aged 53, Bishop of Birmingham since 1987, is close to Dr Runcie, and was appointed by him to handle Anglican-Roman Catholic theological relations. He has made an intelligent and good-humoured job of it, and his diplomatic skills have prevented a serious split. He has shown himself somewhat left-of-centre politically, and would like to see more debate on the merits of the disestablishment of the Church of England. He favours the ordination of women.

John Waite, aged 59, Bishop of Chelmsford since 1986, is highly regarded by bishop-watchers, but has kept a low profile on the national stage. He was formerly Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, and has a quiet reputation as a "man of God". The lack of a controversial track record would make him a good dark-horse candidate.

Michael Baughen, aged 59, Bishop of Chester since 1982, was once Rector of All Souls', Langham Place, central London, sometimes known as the Evangelical cathedral. As such, he is commonly regarded by Evangelicals as their leader. He is strong on personal morality, and the

family, although some regard him as too compliant towards liberal theology.

Keith Sutton, aged 55, Bishop of Lichfield since 1983, knows well the rest of the Anglican Communion, particularly Africa, where it is growing fast. He was sent by Dr Runcie to support Archbishop Desmond Tutu when an assassination was feared. He is popular, with no enemies, of moderate Evangelical persuasion, and would be a compromise candidate.

David Sheppard, aged 61, Bishop of Liverpool since 1975, is probably the most respected of all the English bishops for his integrity and compassion. Definitely left of centre, and also famous for captaining the England cricket team and for being "twinned" with his Roman Catholic opposite number on Merseyside, Archbishop Derek Worlock. He would be a difficult choice for Mrs Margaret Thatcher. An undoubted Evangelical he has close Roman Catholic ties.

Richard Harries, aged 53, Bishop of Oxford since 1987, is a former dean of King's College, London. He is an astute theologian, tending towards the conservative side in doctrine, but very modern, cultured and personable. Like Dr

Habgood, he would fortify the Church of England's intellectual credentials. He put together an historic rapprochement between Anglican Christianity and the Jews, which was accepted as policy by the Lambeth Conference in 1988. He supports female ordination he also has Anglo-Catholic sympathies.

William Westwood, aged 64, Bishop of Peterborough since 1984, combines high entertainment value with deep thinking, well expressed. He can be disrespectful of Anglican follies, and has declared himself the only bishop who supports Mrs Thatcher. He is theologically conservative and an Anglo-Catholic.

John Taylor, aged 60, Bishop of St Albans since 1980, is a leading Evangelical who knows how to use the media — he helped to stoke up the fires of the *Crockford's* preface affair in 1987, and upset conservative Anglo-Catholics enormously. In fact, he seemed to agree with most of the analysis, but thought that the anonymous attack on Dr Runcie a low blow. He is always thoughtful, often incisive, and favours a return to traditional moral values. Not unknown to No 10 Downing Street, and not disliked there either.



Likely candidates: From left, Bishops Habgood, aged 62, Harries, aged 53, Eames, aged 52, James, aged 63, Waite, aged 59, Sutton, aged 55, Taylor, aged 60, Baughen, aged 59, Santer, aged 53, Sheppard, aged 61, and Westwood, aged 64.

## Traditionalists call for successor 'in touch with the man in the pew'

By Mark Souster

News of Dr Runcie's resignation was greeted with sadness by Church leaders, with praise for his courageous and imaginative leadership.

Within the political world there was mixed reaction, with one Conservative MP criticizing him for failing to stand up to the "trendiness and even atheism which exists in some parts of the Church of England."

His Eminence Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster and leader of the Roman Catholic Church in Britain, said: "I am personally very sorry that Dr Runcie is retiring. I have valued his friendship very much and have always enjoyed working with him."

The Bishop of Bradford, the Right Rev Robert Williamson, said in a statement: "The announcement is not totally unexpected, but for those of us who have been working closely with Robert Runcie it will bring a real degree of sadness."

"He has been a courageous and imaginative leader of the Church of England during a

particularly difficult period of its life. His leading role within the worldwide Anglican Communion has been superbly and sensitively exercised."

At Westminster the announcement prompted a call from Mr Eric Heffer, Labour MP for Liverpool Walton, for legislation to change the system whereby the Prime Minister names the successor. Mr Heffer, a leading Anglican in the Labour Party, said it was wrong that a prime minister, of whatever party, should have a say in determining the successor.

"They will obviously have to make the choice before the end of the year and it is unlikely that we could get legislation through in time to change the system. But I would be very happy to see that done."

Commenting on Dr Runcie's career, he said: "Dr Runcie has had a very difficult task and he has shown great skill and managed to keep together the Anglican Communion in Britain and in the world. I think he has done a very good job under great

difficulties. I also think that during his term of office some of the documents produced have been fundamentally on the right side of the basic Christian argument of support for the poor and the oppressed throughout the world."

Mr Harry Greenway, Tory MP for Ealing North and convener of Conservative Christians in Parliament, said: "While I know the Archbishop has done his utmost, there is no doubt that the Church has weakened considerably both in influence and membership during the past few years."

"A successor is needed who will eschew politics and preach the gospel fearlessly and brilliantly. We need a cross between the spiritual greatness of Archbishop Ramsey and the administrative brilliance of Archbishop Fisher — and no more waffle."

"The Church in future must be outwith politics and interference with government and in with ordinary men, women and children, their needs and aspirations and religious — but not political — beliefs. In some

ways it has been a disappointing archiepiscopate from a man of great gifts and strong faith but one who has not stood up to the trendiness, deep insincerity and even atheism which exists in some parts of the Church of England."

Mr Peter Bruinvels, a former Tory MP and now a member of the General Synod, said: "I hope we can have a more traditional successor. We must now go back to representing the man in the pew with traditional doctrine and worship — and the Church kept out of politics."

Mr Simon Hughes, South-west and Bermondsey MP and Liberal Democrat spokesman on Church of England affairs, said: "The Archbishop should be thanked for a very good decade's work. He has ensured the voice of the Church has been heard and has been relevant in tumultuous times for Britain and the world."

"The whole of the Anglican Communion owes him a great debt."

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# Court of Appeal too cautious on retrials, Bar says

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Court of Appeal is criticized by the Bar Council today as "excessively cautious" in ordering retrials in cases where fresh evidence has been produced.

In evidence to the May committee of inquiry into the Guildford and Woolwich cases, the Bar Council attacks the Court of Appeal for "usurping" the function of the jury. The court looks at fresh evidence itself instead of considering the effect this might have on the jury at the original trial, the Bar says. "The result is that in cases of fresh evidence, retrials are seldom ordered."

The Bar Council calls for a statutory right to be introduced to allow new evidence to be considered by a jury and it says the Court of Appeal "should ask itself whether the evidence is new, relevant and capable of making a difference to the reasoning of a jury".

"If this low threshold is passed the appellant should have a right to a retrial."

The Bar Council makes a number of other recommendations for reforming the way the criminal justice system deals with alleged miscarriages of justice.

It accepts that the Court of Appeal should retain its general discretion to quash a conviction. However, the Home Secretary should refer all cases where there are grounds for believing a verdict is unsafe or unsatisfactory.

The Home Secretary makes a referral only where there is fresh evidence which casts doubt upon the original verdict. "This cannot be a proper

exercise of the Home Secretary's discretion. It amounts to a refusal to refer to the Court of Appeal any case where there is fresh evidence," the council says.

The Bar Council also argues that where a person petitions the Home Secretary after exhausting the appeals machinery, the petition must be investigated by a legally-qualified person and not, as now, by a civil servant normally without legal training.

The council says that in serious cases a confession should be verified in its material details by other evidence. It does not make any proposal ruling out the conviction of a defendant on the basis solely of confessions.

The Bar Council says there may be some force in recommendations that there should be other evidence to support a confession if it is obtained in breach of codes of practice on questioning, or from a vulnerable person.

It says police should disclose all material in a case to the Crown Prosecution Service which must in turn pass it all to counsel, after which counsel must ask if there is any material which has not been brought to its attention.

The council also says it has found resentment by police officers "grows into a feeling that the defence will merely dig into the unused material and come up with some smokescreen to put before the jury".

The council urges better education of police officers and clear rules on recording of documents and objects found. It also recommends:

suspects detained under the Prevention of Terrorism Act should have the same rights as those suspected of other crimes;

the right of silence should be preserved;

the Crown Prosecution Service should have more resources to enable it to perform the tasks of supervising police inquiries laid down by its code of principles;

presentation of serious criminal cases should be the responsibility of an independent advocate.

Legal aid should be extended to make resources available to investigate miscarriages of justice, the Law Society's criminal law committee says to the May inquiry.

There should also be a statutory review body, with power to initiate and support an independent investigation of alleged miscarriages of justice and determine whether a case should be referred back to the Court of Appeal.

The body should include judges and lay people who would inspire public confidence and be seen to be independent.

The committee does not recommend that grounds of appeal be extended to cover incompetence by solicitors as this would pave the way for a flood of complaints from clients who felt their defence had not been properly conducted.

Incompetence could be a reason for a continuing investigation, either by the review body or an independent solicitor. The Home Secretary should retain his powers of referral.

## Mothers' Day posy from a princess

TERRY RICHARDS



Princess Beatrix pausing to view the assembled press contingent before entering the Portland Hospital, London, yesterday for her first glimpse of her baby sister. The toddler, aged 19 months,

clutched a Mothers' Day gift of a posy of red, yellow and white flowers tied with a pink ribbon. She walked into the hospital hand-in-hand with her father, the Duke of York. It was the first time the Duchess

of York had seen Princess Beatrix since giving birth to her second daughter by caesarean section on Friday night. She was also visited for an hour yesterday afternoon by the Princess of Wales.

### AGENDA

The week ahead

**Monday**  
In the Commons MPs will finish their debate on the Budget, and pop stars will group around Mr. Dave Nellist, the Militant MP, to chorus support for the anti-poll tax campaign. Environmentalists foregather at St Paul's to urge protection of peat bogs. The declaration of the rerun elections for the T&GWU executive is likely to bring good news for Neil Kinnock.

**Tuesday**  
Shopkeepers launch a renewed attempt for reform of the Shops Act; drug users' families report on life with junkies; Mr. Alastair Morton, Mr. John Prescott and others meet in Folkestone to debate the possibilities for transport and life after the Channel tunnel.

**Wednesday**  
Labour's national executive meets in London. Clowns convene in Bognor Regis. Authors protest at the Government's plans for public libraries. A memorial service is held for Farhad Bazoff, the journalist executed as a spy.

**Thursday**  
The Commons debates the Budget changes to the community charge benefit regulations, and Lambeth council meets to fix what is expected to be the highest community charge in the country - £650 a head.

**Friday**  
An Anglo-German summit convenes in London with Chancellor Kohl and the Prime Minister. Mrs. Barbara Castle, who introduced the breath tests, will attend a conference on drink-driving at the University of Essex in Colchester.

**Saturday**  
Protesters should be out in fair force - against the poll tax in many towns, and against Trident at Aldermaston and Barrow-in-Furness. Oxford are expected to win the university boat race.

Robin Young

## Six go in purge on Militant

By Kerry Gill

The Labour Party has expelled six members in Scotland in its latest purge against the Militant Tendency.

One of those thrown out, after a hearing by the party's national constitutional committee in Glasgow, is Miss Lynn Sheridan, sister of Mr. Tommy Sheridan, chairman of the All Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation.

Another is Mrs. Margaret Dick, a Strathclyde regional councillor, who was suspended from holding office in the Labour Party last March.

Mr. Jimmy Allison, Labour's Scottish organizer, said all those expelled were found to be members of Militant Tendency after a lengthy investigation of their activities.

Mrs. Dick said that the hearing had been a "show trial" and her accusers could find nothing more damning than that she had appeared on anti-poll tax platforms.

"They have been trying to compile evidence against me, but I deny being a member of Militant," she said.

Others expelled at the weekend were Miss Kirsten Walker, a member of the Labour Party's Young Socialists, Mr. William Bill, and Mr. George McNeillage, said to be a "right hand man" for Mr. Sheridan.

Mr. Bob Wylie, once Militant's Scottish spokesman, was also formally expelled although a Labour Party spokesman said that he had already resigned.

## School leavers' lack of drive 'is hitting Britain'

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

A huge divide threatens to split the young into a new generation of haves and have-nots, and the deciding factor is education, a survey conducted by a team of academics has shown.

The spirit of enterprise is increasingly absent among early school leavers, comprising a substantial sector of British youth, according to a new survey funded by the Economic and Social Research Council.

The most comprehensive study yet of almost 6,000 young adults, aged 16 to 19, carried out by more than 20 academics from five universities, has exposed a "tremendous" gap in attitude and thinking between those who leave school at 16, with few or no qualifications, and teenagers who continue with further education.

What makes the situation worrying for Britain is that about 50 per cent of teenagers leave school at 16 and often shun further training - far more than in most other European countries.

The project, co-ordinated by Professor John Bynner of City University in London, shows that Britain's teenagers lack personal ambition and drive - but want good pay and prospects. Shouldering responsibility, using initiative and making decisions on their own does not figure high

in their list of priorities.

Professor Bynner said yesterday: "There is a tremendous gap between young people who are staying in the education system, quite a small proportion in comparison with everywhere else in Europe, and those who leave."

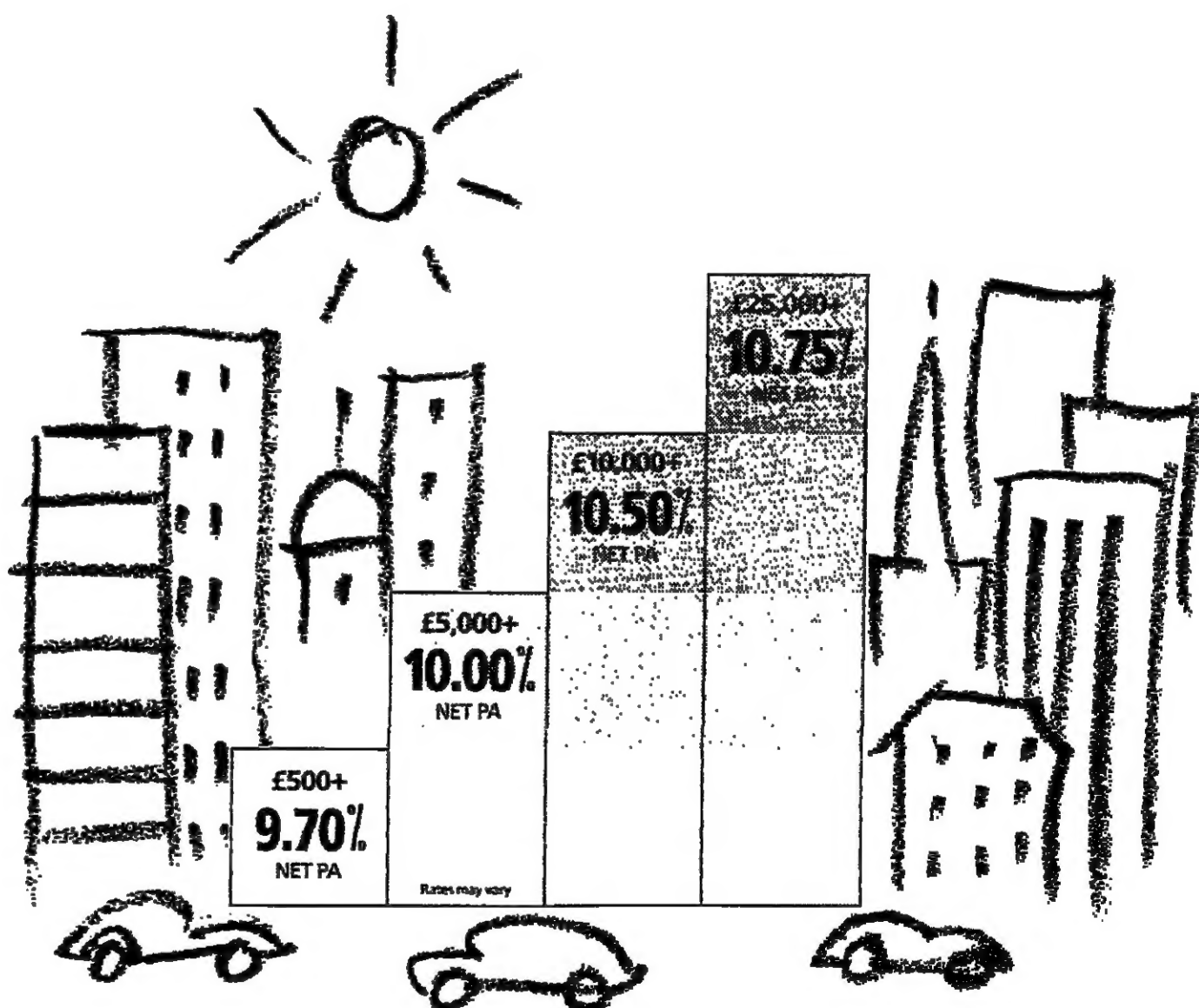
"The generalization about lack of entrepreneurial spirit applies particularly to those who leave at the age of 16, largely unqualified."

"Those who stay on for A levels have, like their counterparts in Europe, aspirations and will postpone earning money to get really good prospects and good jobs. The new professional classes in this country are the same as anywhere else."

He highlighted the "staggering" difference in the proportion of largely unskilled youngsters in Britain who alternate between unemployment and part-time work - "anything up to 25 per cent of the population under 18".

"That is far, far higher than you would expect in other Western European countries. Our main competitors, West Germany, France, The Netherlands and Scandinavia, have nothing comparable."

The introduction of new technology into industry over the past ten years has wrecked the youth labour market by making it far harder for unskilled youngsters to get jobs.



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## Huge rebates and equity shares lure home buyers

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The battle to sell new homes has led to offers ranging from a discount of up to 30 per cent to equity share schemes in which the buyer pays half now and the rest in five years.

In London's Docklands, worst affected by the property slump because of an over-supply of flats and overpricing caused by the boom years until 1988, it is claimed that of 48 new schemes on the market, 36 have offered price reductions, sales incentives or have been "receptive" to offers.

Those figures come from the property consultancy DP3, which says that in addition, some higher priced schemes have been discounted up to 30 per cent and sold to investors. Two weeks ago Wimpey, one of Britain's largest builders, launched equity share schemes at 10 of its sites. Instead of the 50-50 schemes which several developers have brought in, Wimpey's is a 70-30 plan, under which the buyer pays 70 per cent of the full purchase price and has five years in which to pay the balance.

Wimpey has introduced the scheme at both its up-market developments such as in

Sunningdale, Berkshire, where the four- and five-bedroom houses cost between £350,000 and £375,000, and its cheaper schemes where the houses are priced at £60,000 upwards. Several properties have been sold under the scheme.

Rosehaugh Copartnership Developments brought in a 50-50 scheme at three London developments in February, selling out in two (not in Docklands) and selling more than half of the 64 units at Vogan's Mill in Docklands.

Two days ago they repeated the exercise at another Docklands development, New Caledonian Wharf, and had seven flats reserved on the first evening.

Mr. Ian Rowberry, managing director, said the 50-50 scheme had put some breath into the property market. Estate agents agree that while it may hold difficulties in the future if buyers cannot complete the purchase, it has acted as a pump primer to attract buyers back into the fray.

The interest caused by these schemes has been immense. Mr. David Goldstone, managing director of Rogalain, which last month launched its 50-50 offer at 600 flats in

Docklands and elsewhere, said that 3,000 people had visited the sites in four weeks, against 300 visitors in the past year.

Of 257 initial reservations, there had been a failure rate of about 45 per cent - compared with 30 per cent in normal times - but 140 remained reserved.

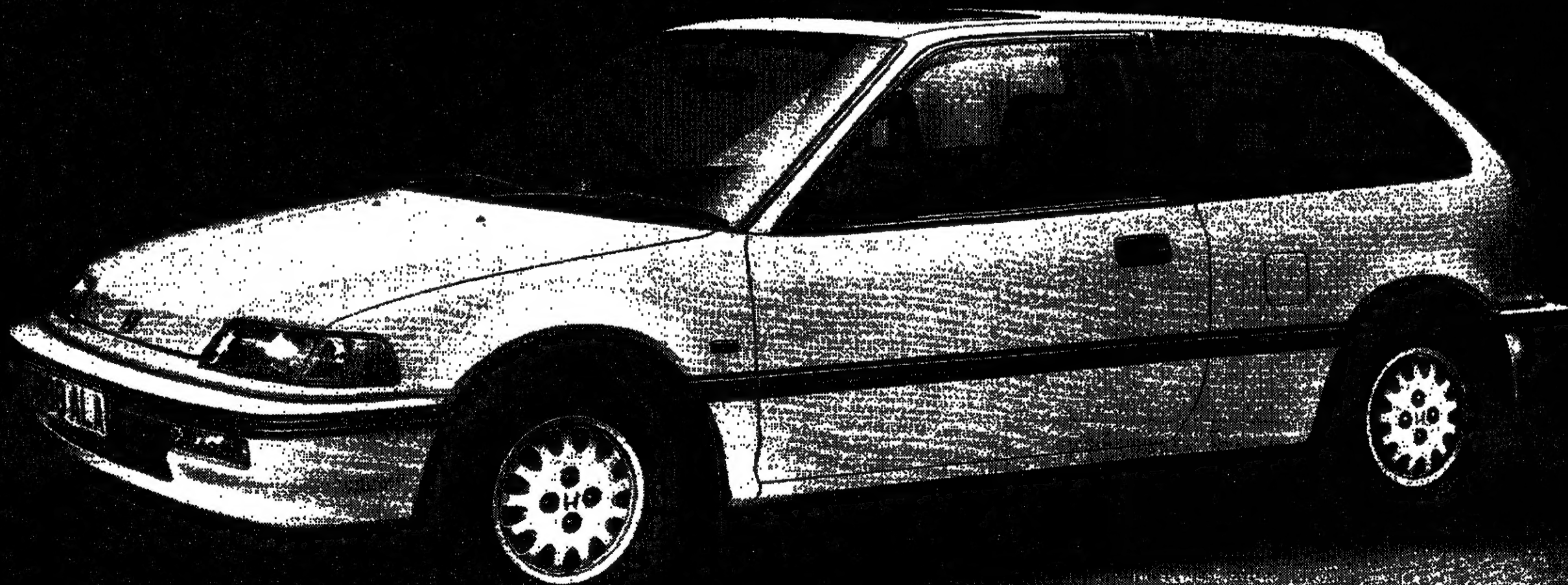
Fairclough Homes, which launched its scheme in January with backing from the Abbey National and Gloucester Building Society, has sold 65 flats at Cyclops Wharf on the Isle of Dogs in Docklands (half the total), 24 at King and Queen Wharf, Rotherhithe, (one-third) and 18 (three-quarters) at Hyde Park Gate, Kensington, almost all to owner occupiers.

The consultancy DP3 believes that discounts and favourable inducements to help sales will be needed for a year more in Docklands to keep the market going.

For the buyer this could be the time to buy, if he or she has enough money to take the gamble of paying for 50, 70 or 75 per cent now and hoping the rest will be there in five years' time.



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## Agriculture incentives 'destroying countryside'

By Michael Horanby, Agriculture Correspondent

Much of the European Community's expenditure on agriculture is still geared towards boosting unwanted production and is destroying the countryside, according to a report by a leading conservation group published today.

Inflated prices and subsidies continue to make it economic for farmers to rip out hedgerows, drain wetlands, overstock moorland, razee woodlands and plough up extra acreage for crops. The Council for the Protection of Rural England maintains.

"Contrary to claims, the common agricultural policy is essentially unreformed," Mr Andy Wilson, the assistant secretary of the council and author of the report, said in an accompanying statement.

"Our aim is to shatter the cosy world in which decisions on farm spending are taken by farm ministers for farmers, and to expose the huge spending on environmentally damaging incentives."

Only 3 per cent of the total £1,200 million spent by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in 1989-90 went "on measures which specifically support environmentally friendly farming", the report says.

One welcome development had been the introduction of environmentally sensitive areas, where farmers could apply for grants to restore or preserve features of the traditional landscape. However, these areas cover only 1.2 per cent of the farmed acreage of the United Kingdom. The council says such grants should be available throughout the countryside.

The publication of the report coincides with the opening in Luxembourg today of a two-day meeting of EC farm ministers to fix support prices for 1990-91.

The European Commission has proposed a "freeze" at the existing price level. However, the council argues that support prices are still too high. It recommends their reduction, and that farmers should be paid direct grants linked to the adoption of less intensive agricultural methods.

It says that the EC is still producing more cereals, beef, milk, butter, sugar and wine than it can consume. The

report is highly critical of the "set aside" policy, whereby farmers are paid to take at least 20 per cent of their arable acreage out of production. It contends that this tempts farmers to intensify production on fields still under cultivation, and that land set aside "may be left as unsightly bare fallow, planted with conifers or used for inappropriate developments".

The council is also concerned that new "rural development" grants proposed by Brussels will stimulate further over-grazing of moorland and other ecologically valuable landscapes, subsidise arable cultivation in areas where it would not normally be economical, and increase the risk of pollution of upland streams by boosting dairy production in hill areas.

"We have already seen a drastic decline in wildlife and habitat in Western Europe, mainly due to intensive agriculture," Mr Wilson said. "More than a quarter of the region's 300 butterfly species are now facing extinction."

"Herb-rich lowland grasslands are disappearing at a frightening rate, mainly due to increased livestock production and expansion of the arable area at the expense of pasture. In the Champagne area of France, for example, 99 per cent of grassland has gone in the last 30 years."

"In Greece, forests where wolves and bears still roam are being cleared at a high rate to provide grazing for sheep. In late 1987, 300 man-made fires were raging out of control and 25,000 acres were burnt down in the space of a week. In Devon and Cornwall, an area of heather moorland larger than Exeter has been destroyed since 1981."

Mr John Gummer, the Minister of Agriculture, said yesterday: "The proposal to reduce price subsidies and divert them to environmental schemes misses the point. Unless farm businesses are profitable they cannot support environmentally beneficial projects."

*Paradise Destruction: How Europe's farm policies are destroying the countryside (Council for the Protection of Rural England, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PP, £6).*

### Whitehall Brief

## Apprenticeship route to ethics

Sir Robin Butler, the head of the Civil Service, said in a recent interview that the way the top ranks of Whitehall acquire a sense of right and wrong in public administration, a feel for what is proper and what is not is through "apprenticeship".

There is no need, he implied, for anything as formal as giving civil servants training in ethics as long as the old hands were passing on their wisdom, and rectitude, to the young striplings. And — to the grief of those who would like to systematise everything — Sir Robin's informal model seems to be working, still.

An example is Mrs Terry Banks, who retires next week as director-general of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. There was nothing in her career before becoming director, doubling up as Registrar-General, that specially fitted her for the particular ethical responsibility of that office: ensuring that the most intimate data about members of the public were protected.

She came to OPCS after the Treasury and the Department of Health and Social Security (as it then was) to apply a dose of managerial rigour and that, by all accounts, she has accomplished. But what she has not done (this was threatened earlier in the 1980s) is damage OPCS' reputation for reliable data-gathering.

The OPCS Mrs Banks came to in the mid-1980s was a survivor. It had received the attentions of the Rayner efficiency scrutineers, for whom such Victorian valuables as a solid demographic information base for the nation's sake did not count for much. Mrs Margaret Thatcher's privatization enthusiasts had also had a go at its social survey work, suggesting that private opinion pollsters could be brought in.

The price of OPCS survival was cost-cutting and

managerial reorganization, a process still going on, not least in the shape of a huge computerization programme which is reaching right down to the level of town-hall registrars who now put the names of spouses and mothers and fathers into electronic storage. A coming reform of births, deaths and marriages registration is overdue (and thanks in part to OPCS's having consulted widely) largely agreed: under it there will be a clearer line of responsibility for local registrars.

But with that managerial reform, a sense of the proprieties might also have been lost — why should not OPCS sell its data to commercial users? You could give a functional answer to that: if the public did not trust OPCS, they would not respond honestly to its questionnaires.

But there is an ethical answer. The Registrar-General is a Victorian creation (Williamian to be strictly accurate). The office has some old values, to do with truth and accuracy and a willingness to publish data however uncomfortable they might be for the current holders of power in the state.

Mrs Banks answers to Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, who has been rather cavalier in his appointments to positions on district health authorities. Being a loyal civil servant Mrs Banks would never have wished to contradict her minister. But OPCS's corporate ethos in principle gave her the moral strength to do so.

She is being replaced by another career civil servant from the Department of Health. By Sir Robin's apprenticeship model, he too will quickly learn what is right and what is wrong and so gain the strength to stand up to ministers (or fellow civil servants) when necessary.

David Walker

## Farmers take to water as floods force standstill

MIKE WILKINSON

By Kerry Gill



Mr Robert Lindsay (standing) and his brother Peter skim across the 10ft "lake" now covering 40 acres on their farm.

This morning, Mr Robert Lindsay, a Scottish farmer, will start up the outboard motor on his 12ft boat to take his two children across 500 yards of choppy, wind-whipped water to school.

Mr Lindsay's 200-acre farm does not lie on a remote island in the Outer Hebrides. It is in the middle of Perthshire, 30 miles from the open sea.

For more than seven weeks, West Haugh farm near Melkicourt, Tayside, has lain largely under water and the family home has been cut off by the River Tay, which has burst its banks in the worst flooding in memory.

When the rains began falling in early February, Mr Lindsay and other farmers in Strath Tay, Tayside, and tributary valleys believed their problems would be short-lived. Since then, however, continuing storms have left West Haugh farm cut off from dry land, with the Lindsay family having to sail across a stretch of water of between 500 yards and three quarters of a mile, depending on the previous night's rainfall.

Flooding, largely due to burst flood banks on the river's edge, has left some of Scotland's richest farmland virtually unworkable, with top soil eroded, crops ruined and debris-strewn fields resembling a lunar landscape.

"I have been able to do no farming since," said Mr Lindsay. "About 40 acres are still under water and where it has

disappeared, the ground is saturated. It could be like this for another six weeks. Every time the water goes down, it rains again."

All his winter fodder was lost, his 50 head of cattle had to be airlifted out and, unless he is able to sow by the end of next month, his barley crop will be non-existent this year.

From Loch Tay to Perth, other farmers tell a similar story of drowned lambs, flooded fields, silage and straw destroyed, and little prospect of being able to sow crops because of field erosion.

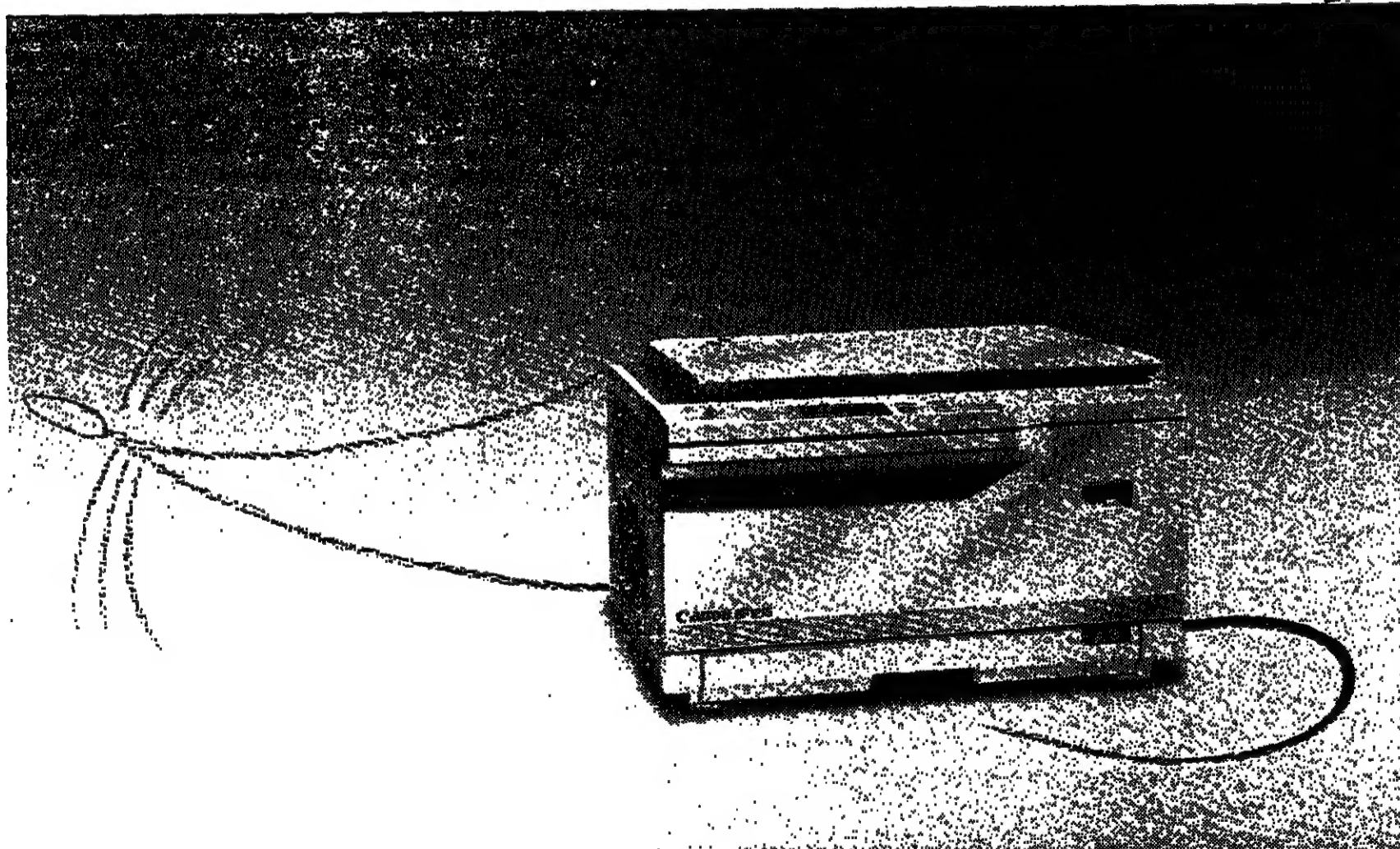
Mr John MacNeill, area secretary of the National Farmers' Union in Perth, said a neighbouring farmer had to call a helicopter to airlift his pregnant wife to hospital. At another farm, between 30 and 40 acres of land disappeared, leaving nothing but bedrock after 100 metres of riverbank was washed away.

"The whole thing is quite frightening. Many farmers from Pitlochry to Perth are facing ruin," Mr MacNeill said.

On Saturday, farmers are to hold a meeting in Dunkeld to discuss the flood damage and are expected to demand substantial financial aid from the European Community.

Lord Sanderson, Minister of State with responsibility for agriculture at the Scottish Office, has already announced that £500,000 will be made available to farmers to repair breaches in floodbanks.

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# MacGregor resolves to end exam confusion

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, is preparing to take legal powers to regulate sixth-form examinations in an attempt to end the confusion created by a growing number of courses on offer.

Mr MacGregor shares student bewilderment at a choice of, among others, A Levels, AS Levels, Business and Technician Education Council and the Certificate of Pre-Vocational Education. Measures already exist to regulate exam syllabuses for 16 year olds and the minister is considering extending them to give him the power to vet all examination courses for 16 to 19 year olds.

He would like to see regulations in place as soon as possible after the conclusion of the 16-19 review being conducted by the School Examinations and Assessment Council.

Meanwhile another new examination aimed at those at school after 16 was announced yesterday. The Certificate of Further Studies, which will be offered by the Associated Examining Board from September, is intended to be taken by students who return to school or college to re-take GCSEs.

The one-year courses have been tailored to the needs of industry and eight subjects, including law, French for business, media and sports studies, will be offered in the first year.

A spokesman for the AEB, the biggest A Level examiner in Britain, said: "We are responding to pressure from sixth form colleges who find it very hard to persuade students that they should do more than re-sit GCSE if they get low grades first time round."

"Re-taking exams can be dreadfully boring. We wanted to add a little spice to their studies and provide a qualification that was worthwhile in its own right. Students scoring 60 per cent will be told their result is equal to a Grade C at GCSE, the equivalent of an O Level pass."

Fresh conflict over the place of science in the school curriculum between senior ministers and the Government's main adviser on examinations seems certain despite attempts at conciliation over the weekend.

It follows a decision by the School Examinations and Assessment Council to press ahead with plans to abolish GCSE examinations in biology, chemistry and physics. In place of the three sciences the council wants an examination at the age of 16 in an integrated subject, science. Pupils who passed the new subject would be awarded two GCSEs.

The "double award" proposal has angered the public schools, which fear it will leave pupils unprepared for A Levels and degree courses in individual sciences. The Prime Minister is known to take a cool view of the plan and Mr MacGregor is likely to come under pressure to reject it.

Under the Education Reform Act all examinations offered by schools to pupils aged between five and 16 have to have ministerial approval.

The single science examination proposal is linked to the National Curriculum in which science is one of three core subjects which must be taken by all pupils.

The Government's policy allowing schools to opt out of local authority control has paralysed attempts to cut costs by reorganizing schools to remove surplus places, Mr Jack Suraw, Labour's education spokesman said yesterday.

He called for new guidelines to help local authorities in the wake of a High Court ruling last month which overturned a decision by Mr MacGregor to allow Beechen Cliff School, Bath, to opt out to avoid a reorganization plan.

The Government is failing to fulfill its promise of introducing greater competition in higher education by refusing to allow polytechnics to compete with universities for research funds on an equal basis (Sam Kiley writes).

Ministers will be told this week that they should be "blind to the binary line", which divides the two higher education sectors, and allow polytechnics to openly compete for the £1.6 billion spent on research by the Department of Education and Science each year.

A report by the Institute of Economic Affairs, to be sent to Mr John MacGregor, this week is highly critical of "inconsistencies" in government research policy.

# Paying homage to master of Impressionism

MICHAEL POWELL



Enthusiasts admiring Renoir's "Le Moulin de la Galette" in London yesterday.

A picture considered to be the epitome of French Impressionism drew hundreds of art lovers to Sotheby's main auction gallery in New Bond Street, London, yesterday.

Renoir's "Le Moulin de la Galette", a frothy confection of light, colour and movement at an outdoor cafe and dance in the Paris of 1876, was on show in London before it is sold in New York on May 17.

Sunday afternoon saw Lower New Bond Street alive with art enthusiasts for the first of a three-day viewing. Other Impressionist pictures due for auction were also on show but the room was dominated by the Renoir.

It shows couples talking at tables while others move around a small dance floor.

The scene is bathed in tree-dappled sunlight. "Renoir did this from life," Miss Melanie Clove, a director of the Impressionist department, said. "The whole thing is flooded with light. It is the personification of what the Impressionists were trying to do at that

## SALEROOM

By John Shaw

time; illustrate the life, the vivacity, the atmosphere and personalities of late 19th-century Paris."

The record for a Renoir is held by "La Promenade" (1870), sold by the British Rail Pension Fund for £10,340,000 on April 4 last year. It was bought by the Getty Museum in Malibu, California. But "La Moulin de la Galette" is expected to vault that easily to fetch between \$40-50 million.

"La Moulin de la Galette", is on view at Sotheby's, New Bond Street, London W1, today and tomorrow, 9am-4.30pm.

Modigliani's painting "La Belle Epiciere" fetched a record price for a Modigliani of £7.3 million when it was auctioned in Paris yesterday.

The private papers of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, the great Victorian engineer, responsible for the great West-

ern Railway and The Clifton Suspension Bridge among other engineering feats, have been saved for the nation and will join the main archive of his material at the University of Bristol.

The deal follows protracted negotiations by the National Heritage Memorial Fund, which has bought a collection of 15,000 documents from the family for £477,000.

Americans were outbid for examples of their artistic heritage by the Japanese at Christie's 20th-century decorative arts sale in New York on Saturday.

Tiffany lamps fetched way over their estimates: a lamp with a dragonfly border fetched \$132,000 (estimate \$82,500) and another with yellow and white fish sold for \$104,500 (\$65,312). The Japanese have been buying up art glass for some months.

Art nouveau furniture also did well. An inlaid mahogany dining table made \$66,000 (\$41,250) and a serving table reached \$55,000 (\$44,375).

# Scots give £1m to keep Three Graces

By John Shaw

Scotland has joined the battle for Canova's "The Three Graces" which could enter a new stage this week as trustees of the Victoria & Albert Museum meet to discuss the next move to keep the statue in Britain.

Mr Timothy Clifford, director of the National Galleries of Scotland, gave the £7.6 million public appeal a major boost at the weekend by announcing a £1 million pledge, nearly two-thirds of its annual purchase grant.

The figure is three times the £330,000 raised by the V & A appeal launched in January. Unless the Government delays issuing an export licence the sculpture will be sold to the Getty Museum in California in 10 days time.

"Scotland does not have anything by Canova," Mr Clifford said yesterday. "Lord Cawdor, a Scotsman, appreciated him in the early 19th-century. One of his pieces is in the royal collection and three others are in the Louvre. We feel this statue should be kept here and a suitable home would be in Edinburgh."

He said his trustees had watched the progress of the appeal very closely, but did not want to compete with the V & A. "This is a most important piece of sculpture, and the main thing is for it to remain in this country."

Mr Clifford's move was welcomed by Mr Marcus Binney, president of Save Britain's Heritage.

He said the gesture "emphasizes the importance yet another major museum attaches to keeping this work in this country."

# 'Geographic' policing method to be unveiled

By Stewart Tindler  
Crime Correspondent

A controversial policing strategy is to be unveiled today. It ends traditional beat policing but aims to bring officers closer to the public with "realistic" community coverage.

Total Geographic Policing has been described by the Surrey force as five years ahead of any other policing system and other areas have already shown interest.

It has been used in Surrey for several years and was implemented across the force last autumn. The strategy ends a system which evolved

around a series of beats covering an area 24 hours a day, in shifts.

Mr David Williams, deputy chief constable of Surrey, said: "Given the shortage of resources which will come, the only chance was to match resources to demand."

The first step was to look at policing boundaries and decide if they were realistic. Did they cover communities and where was crime?

Each of nine sub-divisions in the force was divided into areas and each of these is policed by an area team of constables, sergeants and an inspector. The officers have phased starts

during the day according to demand, with few staff on duty early in the morning when little is happening. The area unit decides its priorities and work patterns with its own vehicles and overtime allocation. There is one tier of policing and no rapid response car.

Mr Brian Hayes, Surrey's chief constable, says the Home Office has refused higher staffing needed for the strategy and he does not have the full support of his own staff over the ending of traditional shift systems. The magazine *Police Review* includes two anonymous critiques of the

strategy from the ranks. Surrey's force of 1,649 is suffering from low morale in the wake of the Guildford Four case and it does not seem the best time for innovation.

Mr Hayes said: "If we are going to keep the traditional British policing system then I believe we have the answer. Working for the public with officers who are locally based."

Strategy trials did not show an appreciable difference in reported crime. However it improved co-ordination and a more focused approach to crime prevention. Public order problems were reduced.

# Shadowy campaign for Heseltine moves closer to the limelight

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Mr Michael Heseltine's shadowy campaign for the leadership of the Conservative Party will take a step forward this week when he rises on Thursday to open the prestigious international Königsplatz conference in Cambridge.

Waiting in the wings of this annual gathering to further Anglo-German co-operation will be Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Chancellor Helmut Kohl, but the eyes of the media will again be focused on the former Cabinet minister who has emerged as the one man who could oust the Prime Minister this side of a general election.

In Mid Staffordshire where the Tories went down to a humiliating defeat, thanks to the poll tax and crippling mortgage repayments, Mr Heseltine, once the darling of the Conservative conference, was feted by hundreds of party members and almost as many journalists.

Similar media interest awaits him in Cambridge, but once again the former Defence Secretary, who walked out of the Cabinet over the Westland affair in the most dramatic resignation of the post-war period, will do nothing to rock the boat.

He doesn't have to; the boat is being rocked for him. Back at Westminster, Tory MPs returning from their constituencies after one of the grimmest weekends in the Thatcher years will speak of little else but the prospects of a challenge to the Prime Minister this side of a general election.

Their anxiety will be fuelled by a rash of weekend opinion polls showing Labour's lead in the polls stretching up to an unprecedented 28 points. But what will really catch their eye is the finding - by MORI and ICM for *The Sunday Correspondent* - that with Mr Heseltine at the helm their problems would be nothing like as great.

So what, precisely, is the former Cabinet minister's strategy as events move towards the climax he has sought since his resignation four years ago and is there an organized campaign operating on his behalf?

There appears to be no plot, at least not in the organized sense. Mr Michael Mates and Dr Keith Hampson, his two best known Commons lieutenants, are probably now more in demand than at any time since Westland, but no one can produce evidence of anything more clear-cut.

In addition to these two, there are any number of wretched MPs and former ministers, such as Sir Ian Gilmour, whose differences with Mrs Thatcher are well known.

Mr Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow East, is one of the few prepared to join Sir Anthony Meyer in stating his reservations publicly. "I am sure Mrs Thatcher will draw the essential lessons for the long-term

consequences of the by-election result. In the meantime, one priority must be a searching look again at the poll tax proposals, may be focusing on the standard charge, which is after all a property tax, relating the whole thing to ability to pay."

Mr Heseltine is himself seeking to keep above the fray while relentlessly pursuing his exhaustive and exhausting round of speaking engagements in local constituency parties - three or four a week at the latest count. As one insider put it yesterday: "There is no orchestrated campaign. He's just doing what he's been doing for the past three or four years - going round and seeing up the shingle."

The tide of opinion is swinging of its own volition. It's not that we are trying to orchestrate it. Michael is the one tree in the forest that hasn't moved. The world is moving around him."

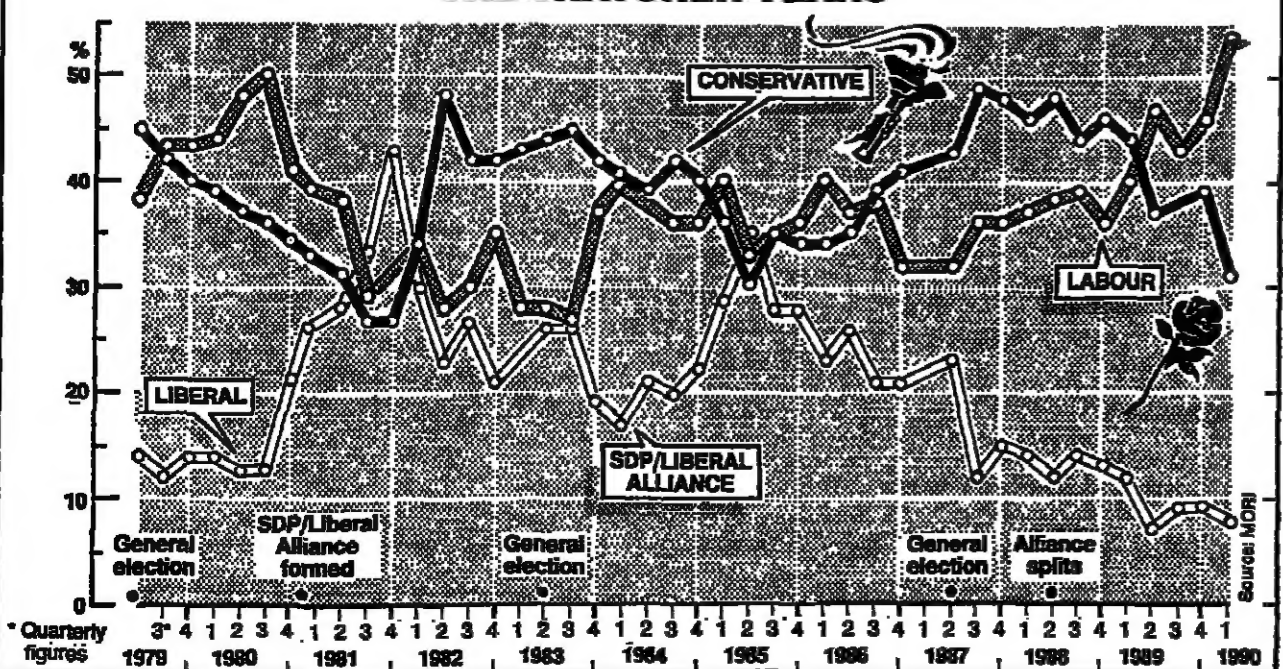
However in the cynical world of Westminster, such protestations of innocence are unlikely to impress Mrs Thatcher's followers, especially those who have received friendly weekend telephone calls from Mr Heseltine inquiring how they perceive the political landscape.

Yesterday, his supporters were claiming that he now has the backing of as many as 100 Tory MPs.

The next step will be to increase the already intense pressure on the Prime Minister in the weeks leading up to the May 3 county elections.

Every slip by the Government will be used to feed the

## HOW THE POLLSTERS HAVE SEEN THE THATCHER YEARS



Weekend opinion polls made grim reading for Conservative MPs in the wake of the Mid Staffordshire defeat. MORI for *Times Newspapers* gave Labour a 23-point lead, the biggest in any MORI or Gallup survey for 40 years.

ICM concurred, putting the Opposition 19 points ahead, and NOP for *Observer* found that Labour's advantage had more than doubled to a staggering 28 points in the last month. But one opinion poll does not make a summer, as our

chart of the parties' fortunes since Mrs Thatcher came to power in 1979 shows. She has been this way before - most notably two years after first gaining power - though she has never been so far behind a single challenger.

# Man who brought business and hope

By Ronald Faux

When Mr Michael Heseltine donned ministerial flak-jacket to do battle among the smouldering streets of Toxteth, his impressions of Liverpool were manifestly grim.

The city left him with the same sense of stupendous dereliction that Wigan forced upon George Orwell when he first visited that northern town.

Both wrote unflatteringly about their experiences. Orwell came, saw and departed; Mr Heseltine came, saw and then haunted the place for three years until he was promoted as Secretary of State for Defence, persuading, bullying, energizing and organizing until the great seaport from which the ships had sailed and not returned started to regain confidence in its future.

Wigan still celebrates Orwell even though he despised the place. Will a statue of Mr Heseltine ever gaze across the Mersey to mark the city's undoubted legacy he has left the city?

The paradox is that so much should be owed to a devout Tory by a city that became determinedly socialist - extreme left-wing socialist at that. While local politicians acknowledge that, they are apt to separate Mr Heseltine from what they perceive to be Tory philosophy.

Tory councillors have become an endangered species in Liverpool: there are only two on the city council. But within the party, Mr Heseltine's achievements after the Toxteth riots must rank high on his curriculum vitae as a potential leader. They represent doggedly won victory against high odds and an ability to steamroller himself into the respect of those to whom Conservatism is anathema.

The Wavertree Technology Park is a crowning example of that achievement. In his autobiography, *Where There's a Will*, Mr Heseltine describes the 65 acres of high-technology industry as one of Liverpool's most visible beacons of returning confidence. Yet five years earlier it was an appalling eyesore, mainly railway yards that had lain unused for a decade, a great sprawl of industrial wasteland.

It was "a silent but eloquent rebuke to a society where it was always someone else's responsibility. Nobody bothered. You drove through Liverpool, you looked at this terrible place, and you drove on."

Mr Heseltine who persuaded Sir John Clark, chairman of Plessey, to lead the experiment to set up the high-technology park at Wavertree along Californian lines. Within weeks Wavertree Technology Park Ltd was established. Reclamation, landscaping and servicing the area needed £6.5 million of government funding but since then £25 million has been spent on buildings and an estimated £75 million invested by private industry. Soon, 40 companies will have moved to the park. Wavertree was a significant result of Mr Heseltine's didactic approach to his inner-city task but there have been others.



Start of a mission: Mr Heseltine in Liverpool in 1981.

Easily the most eye-catching has been the revival of the city's famous waterfront. That has been the work of the Merseyside Development Corporation, set up by Mr Heseltine in 1980 as an inner-city initiative.

Since then have come housing schemes, yacht marinas among yet further waterfront developments, the famous garden festival which has left its own legacy of improvements and tens of millions of pounds ploughed into an improved Merseyside.

Mr Heseltine, still a regular visitor, can look at the ranks of derelict dock warehouses transformed into two million square feet of elegant office space, the art galleries and cultural life and most of all the clear signs of a great city returning to greatness.

Industries looking for a new base drive on at their cost.

# Police hurt in clash at illegal 'pay' party

Police officers were attacked by a 1,000-strong mob hurling missiles as they tried to break up an illegal warehouse party in Cambridgeshire yesterday.

Party-goers strayed on to the Norwich to Ely railway line after trouble erupted when police tried to stop the "pay" party near the hamlet of Shippea Hill.

Over 100 officers were involved with reinforcements from neighbouring counties and a number were injured in what a senior officer called "a serious incident of public disorder". Thirty-five people were arrested.

## Body found

The body of Miss Emma Hearn, aged 20, of Hampstead, north London, is thought to have lain for four days in her car, which crashed into a ravine near Lampeter, Dyfed, before it was discovered by a farmer at the weekend.

## Late traveller

Mrs Annie Dawson, who was born 14 years before the Wright brothers made the first powered flight, had her first air trip, from Manchester to Heathrow and back, as a 101st birthday present from British Airways.

## Home stolen

Thieves have stolen the caravan being used as a temporary home by a Scottish couple in the grounds of Harefield Hospital, Uxbridge, west London, where their son, John Carr, aged five, is undergoing major heart surgery.

## Fridge threat

A plan to distribute fridge thermometers is being considered in Whitehall to try to cut domestic food poisoning. Scientists have carried out experiments using simple liquid crystal thermometers.

## Boy crushed

A boy aged 12 was crushed to death by bales of paper in a factory yard near his home. Jason Smith, of Thorne, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, was playing on the stacked bales, when they collapsed, trapping him.

## Brick attack

A man aged 66 suffered a fractured skull when a brick was thrown at close range through a window on a Sunderland to Newcastle train while it had stopped at signals.

## Crash kills two

Two people were killed and another two were seriously injured when a car spun off the M23 and landed upside down in a ditch on a slip road to Gatwick airport.

ANG  
MEET





*A tea-break for steelworkers at Highveld Steel, an Anglo American subsidiary, where 90% of the workers are shareholders.*

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We think we've managed to convince most people that these suspicions are quite unfounded, and that the scheme has great benefits for all.

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# Landsbergis alarm over communist 'provocation'

From Anatol Lieven, Vilnius

"Provocations" by the Soviet Communist Party in Lithuania and the linked organization, Yedinstvo (Unity), may be imminent, President Landsbergis and the Lithuanian leadership fear.

They believe these might be accompanied by the Soviet military acting against deserters, leading to full-scale intervention. The leadership doubts whether such a move would be with the approval of President Gorbachov: some think it might be a unilateral action by local Soviet security forces and Yedinstvo.

Mr Romualdas Ozalas, the Deputy Prime Minister, said yesterday that he had "clear evidence" that members of Yedinstvo would storm the Supreme Council in the night. "If there is resistance, the army will help them," he said.

Mr Ozalas said he had been told this by a soldier, who had said that on Saturday night "paratroopers in cars had been ready to go, but they were not sent out". The soldier had said that other soldiers expected yesterday to be sent to storm the Supreme Council building in the night.

Mr Ozalas said that he had seen 20 trucks arriving yesterday at Vilnius Airport.

At the Supreme Council, government aides, including several Lithuanian Americans helping with publicity, were pulling the curtains against possible rocks or even bullets. Meanwhile, the former Marxism-Leninism Institute in the city centre has been occupied by soldiers.

President Landsbergis's concern increased sharply yesterday after seeing an advanced copy of today's edition of *Sovetskaya Litva* (Soviet Lithuania), a Russian language newspaper. This is the old name of a paper renamed last year *Lithuanian Echo*. The renaming of the paper this weekend, and the tone of the leading article, has suggested to the Lithuanian leadership that it might be rehearsing justification for use of force.

The leading article says that renaming the paper *Lithuanian Echo* was irresponsible. The editors had no right "because Soviet power still exists in Lithuania". The paper pledged to defend this power. The paper's editors declared that the Lithuanian Communist Party is no longer Communist, and after the

Congress of the Soviet Communist Party in Moscow in June it would lose even its name.

The paper bitterly attacks "bourgeois nationalism" and the "illegal" Lithuanian Government.

Reports have been coming in of increased KGB activity across Lithuania, although these are impossible to verify.

Big demonstrations by the Yedinstvo movement had been expected at the weekend, but Mr Valerij Ivanov, a leader, said on Friday that the movement was concentrating on the local elections in Vilnius and other cities. Almost half of the population of Vilnius is Russian or Polish speaking, and Yedinstvo was hoping to do well in Saturday's elections.

Preliminary results yesterday, however, suggested that Sajudis, the Lithuanian national movement, had won a majority.

Yedinstvo leaders are understood to be planning a demonstration outside Lithuania's Supreme Council on Tuesday evening, at which the Sajudis Government and declaration of independence would be denounced as illegal.

Moscow loyalists have occupied several Communist Party offices in Vilnius in the leadership conflict with the Lithuanian Communist Party. The latter is composed of the communist majority which broke with Moscow in January.

The Soviet Party in Lithuania is overwhelmingly composed of Russians and Poles. There have been reports that the party and Yedinstvo are organizing "workers militias" from these nationalities to hold factories in the name of Moscow.

Most Lithuanians still feel that large-scale military intervention is unlikely, and the desecration of the Lithuanian Red Cross at the psychiatric hospital in New Vilnius.

Large-scale action is being discounted by many experts from Moscow, who say that President Gorbachov would not risk the international damage that this would cause.

But others refer Marshal Akhromyev, who said on Friday that Soviet law on military service will be enforced "no matter how bad it looks to the world".

Proxy crackdown, page 12



Two Lithuanian conscripts who deserted from the Soviet Army registering with Sajudis, the Lithuanian Popular Front, in Vilnius during the weekend.

## Son follows his father's steps in Lithuania crisis

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

At 3am on Saturday, as Soviet tanks rumbled menacingly through Vilnius, the Lithuanian parliament resolved that its *Chargé d'Affaires* should have full authority to act in its name, if Moscow were to order a military crackdown.

The *Chargé*, Mr Stasys Lozoraitis, who is at present in Europe, will have experienced a chilling sense of déjà vu.

Exactly 50 years ago, on the eve of the Soviet Union's military annexation of the Baltic republic, the last Foreign Minister of free Lithuania sent out an uncannily similar message giving almost identical authority to Mr Lozoraitis's father.

Dispatched to all Lithuanian diplomats around the world, the telegram stated: "If catastrophe strikes, please consider Stasys Lozoraitis chief of our nation's diplomatic corps."

It was a role that Mr Lozoraitis's father fulfilled proudly and without flinching for 45 years until he died four years ago at the age of 88.

He and his colleagues survived on a shoe-string. Mr Lozoraitis's father saw his diplomatic corps shrink in that time from around 200 to a mere handful in outposts around the world.

The 16th Street mansion which houses the Lithuanian Legation in Washington grew

silent and increasingly dilapidated. He and his colleagues moved obscurely on the fringes of the diplomatic community, striving to keep the flame alive but ignored or forgotten by today's powers.

On Mr Lozoraitis's death, his son took on the seemingly hopeless cause, little dreaming that just four years later on Sunday, March 11, a Lithuanian parliament would once again be declaring his nation's independence.

Life suddenly returned to the decrepit mansion on 16th Street. Champagne flowed and there was dancing and singing until the small hours.

"No diplomatic corps has ever done what we have," Mr Lozoraitis's father told the *Wall Street Journal*. "For 50 years, representing a state that no longer existed, we have carried on, working, living, dying. It is such a pity my father isn't here to see all our efforts come to such a conclusion."

A fortnight later, with Moscow flexing its military muscles in an attempt to cow the Lithuanians into submission, the word "conclusion" looks distinctly premature.

As he toured Europe on what his legation will only describe as "urgent business" for his country, Mr Lozoraitis will be praying that the events of 50 years ago are not about to be replayed.

## Papal warning against force

From Richard Bessett, Rome

The Pope yesterday urged "a sincere dialogue within the framework of international law" to solve the present crisis in Lithuania, and at the same time Vatican sources indicated that Soviet military intervention in the Baltic would have serious repercussions for the diplomatic relations established only this month between the Eternal City and Moscow.

During his weekly prayers in St Peter's Square, before a congregation of thousands of pilgrims, some of whom carried Lithuanian flags, the Pope urged a "just and peaceful solution" to Lithuania's problems and hoped that God would help those responsible.

Although he did not mention the Russians or President Gorbachov, it was clear the Pope was warning Mr Gorbachov he would lose Vatican support if he used force in dealing with Lithuania.

The Pope's thinly veiled warning to Mr Gorbachov not to resort to force reflects not only the Pope's fears for Lithuania.

According to Vatican sources yesterday, his words also expressed his deep concern for Lithuania's neighbour, Poland.

A reversal of the policy of *glasnost* would have disastrous effects for Eastern Europe, particularly Poland, thanks to its geographic position. Unlike the Lithuanians, the Poles have clearly steered away from confrontation with Moscow in order to win gradual freedom.

"It is important the change in Eastern Europe does not endanger the Soviet Union's security interests, and only a prolonged negotiation can achieve this," a Vatican source said yesterday.

After Moscow and Vilnius, the Pope's prayers yesterday will be listened to more carefully in Warsaw.

## Independence demanded at Georgian rally

From Nick Worrall, Tbilisi

Police sealed off a part of central Tbilisi, the capital of Soviet Georgia, yesterday after a nationalist group threatened to tear down a statue of Lenin. Then thousands of people gathered outside the nearby council of ministers' building to hear calls for independence.

The National Liberation Party claims responsibility for pulling down at least 10 Lenin statues outside the capital but has yet to score a success in Tbilisi. Its principal target is the giant bronze statue that stands in traditional "hailing a taxi" pose in Lenin Square close to important government buildings.

In the morning, police manoeuvred dozens of trucks and buses into place around the square, bringing much of the city centre to a halt. Party supporters reported the presence behind the barricades of contingents of armed Interior Ministry riot troops.

But it was not clear what means the party had in mind for bringing down the statue. One spokesman denied that it had planned to use explosives.

Large crowds quickly gathered to hear speeches from Georgian nationalist leaders under an array of flags, but there was only a limited police presence.

On April 9 last year paratroopers wielding entrenching tools and using CS gas killed 20 men and women during a demonstration at the same spot. Since then the Georgian authorities have been anxious to keep tensions subdued.

Yesterday was to have been election day in Georgia, with the republic's voters choosing their new parliament. For the first time they would have had a choice of Communist Party and non-party candidates. Most of the Soviet Union's 15 republics have held similar elections over the past two months. But unrest and violence in Georgia's neighbouring Caucasian republics,

Armenia and Azerbaijan, caused elections there to be postponed. And in a dramatic development last Tuesday, the outgoing Georgian Parliament — dominated by the Communists — voted to postpone the elections until October.

For months, radical nationalist groups had threatened to boycott the elections. But the decision came when the most centrist Popular Front shifted its position last week and demanded a multi-party election.

In a mood of compliance, which nationalists attribute to a fear of seeming obdurate while communist parties in Eastern Europe are being obliterated, the Communist majority also decided to end its own constitutional right to rule. It acceded to the Popular Front's wish for a six-month delay to allow newly forming parties time to organize for elections.

But the Georgian nationalist and independence movements — which number more than 100 — are badly divided. Anything could happen before October. The National Forum, which groups together the most radical parties, says it will boycott that election too. The Forum members refuse on moral grounds to take part in elections controlled by an occupying power — the Soviet Union.

"The Soviet Union occupied Georgia in 1921. We still do not recognize the constitution," said Mr Ghia Tchantshuria, chairman of the National Democrat Party, a historian and one of the Forum's most outspoken members.

Centrist groups such as the Popular Front of Georgia are encouraging the registration of new political parties and campaigning for the official elections, but the Forum is planning to organize its own election for a new alternative parliament, says Mr Tchantshuria.

## Missiles become museum display

From Susan Elliott, Washington

In a symbol of the thaw in the Cold War, the United States and the Soviet Union have agreed to display nuclear missiles at leading museums in their capitals.

The US is calling it a good-natured nuclear exchange. But the latest superpower missiles deal also boasts a detail worthy of the best spy novels — high-level negotiations began one morning at the Pentagon swimming pool.

In a show of consummate Washington-style diplomacy, the deputy director of the Air and Space Museum approached the then Secretary of Defence, Mr Frank Carlucci, at the pool and made a request

for two Pershing 2 missiles. Once the US Army agreed, the staff of the museum negotiated with the Soviet Union to swap one SS20 for one of the US weapons.

The Washington museum, one of the city's biggest tourist attractions, will add the Pershing 2 and the Soviet SS20 missiles to its collection of space and aviation exhibits by the time President Gorbachov visits the US in June for a summit with President Bush. The missiles, which will stand next to the wooden aircraft used by the Wright Brothers for man's first flight, are being withdrawn from Europe under the superpowers' intermedi-

ate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty of 1987.

Moscow, completing the symbol of new superpower cordiality, will display a 54ft SS20 and a 34ft Pershing at its Central Military Museum. The treaty provided that each country could retain 15 demilitarized missiles for display.

Both sides are entitled to inspect missiles whenever they wish, in case they have been rearmored or removed. Although the Soviet nuclear weapons are factory seconds and the US missiles were made for training US troops, they are covered by the INF treaty. The National Air and

## Kremlin top jobs for old guard

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

President Gorbachov yesterday laid himself open to criticism from Soviet reformers when he named two known conservatives to join his personal presidential council or Cabinet.

Over the weekend 13 people were appointed to the new council, intended to have the chief policy-making role in the presidential structure.

While the majority of council members belong to the Communist Party's leading bodies, there are also representatives from many walks of Soviet life, including writers, academics, economists and a workers' representative.

The presidential council is one of two new bodies established in connection with Mr Gorbachov's new post of executive President.

The other is the council — or soviet — of the federation, which will comprise leaders of the Soviet Union's 15 (14 without Lithuania) republics.

The presidential council includes six members of the Politburo: the Central Committee secretary responsible for foreign affairs, Mr Aleksandr Yakovlev, and the Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze (both regarded as reformers); the head of the KGB, Mr Vladimir Kryuchkov, the Interior Minister, Mr Vadim Bakatin, and the Secretary for Economic Affairs, Mr Yuri Maslyukov (all regarded as centrists); and the Defence Minister, General Dmitri Yazov (regarded as a conservative).

Also from the party apparatus come Mr Valery Boldin, head of the party Central Committee's general department. The original announcement also named Mr Grigory Revenko, party first secretary in the Ukrainian capital, Kiev, and Mr Yevgeny Primakov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet's council of the union (considered on the conservative wing of the party). These two names were dropped without explanation from a later Tass report.

The other members are the writers Chinghiz Aitmatov (a Kirghiz by nationality) and Valentin Rasputin (a self-professed Russian nationalist), and academicians Mr Stanislav Shatalin, a reforming economist, and Mr Yuri Osipyan, a theoretical physicist who is deputy director of the Academy of Sciences.

There are also two members of the Congress of People's Deputies — the Estonian agriculture specialist, Mr Albert Kauls, and Mr Veniamin Yarin, head of an organization called the United Front of Workers, which was set up last year to counter the influence of unofficial trade unions. Mr Yarin is considered to be a conservative.

It is not clear how big the presidential council will be. The first 10 names were announced on Saturday, with another three yesterday. The usual Soviet practice of announcing appointments in strict order — either of seniority or alphabetical — was not observed, nor was it stated whether the list was complete. The confusion over the second list of names yesterday suggests unexpected difficulties.

## Rocard to boost UK link

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

M Michel Rocard, the French Prime Minister, arrives in Britain today for talks and a working lunch with Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

The visit has been billed in certain French circles as President Mitterrand's attempt to persuade Mrs Thatcher to agree to speeding up European Community integration — and in particular European Monetary Union — as the only way to prevent German reunification swamping community affairs.

Although the pace of European integration will be on the agenda, so will European security and defence.

As the heads of the two European nuclear powers of Europe, M Rocard and Mrs Thatcher will have a lot to talk about at a time when French defence specialists are querying truths they held to be immovable a few months ago.

The French wish to draw closer to Britain after the upset to the balance of the Franco-German relationship. But it is known that London sees Anglo-French co-operation in a wider context than just concern over German unification and believes that European integration has a momentum which should not be forced.

Much was made in the French press last week of a new presidential strategy to reassert French influence in Europe, which has suffered from the months that Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, appears to have made all the running.

President Mitterrand was said to have sent a letter to Herr Kohl reminding him of his EC commitment and asking him to agree to bring forward the EMU meeting scheduled for December.

Herr Kohl made it clear in Brussels on Friday that he was a firm EC partner but reiterated that he was not in favour of changing the December meeting.

## Kohl aims to heal German unity rift with Thatcher

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Disagreement between Bonn and London over the pace of German reunification is expected to be formally resolved this week when Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, flies to Britain for a summit with the Prime Minister.

Had the meeting taken place a few weeks ago, there would have been a serious risk of open conflict between the two leaders over reunification and its implications for European security. But now there is a more conciliatory mood. Mrs Thatcher believes Bonn has come round to her way of thinking that reunification will take longer than previously stated and that important security and economic issues have to be dealt with first before the Germans can reunite.

Herr Kohl, while continuing to take the lead in promoting reunification, has recently accepted that it is likely to be an extended process.

The West German leader arrives on Thursday to attend the annual Anglo-German Konigswinter conference at

Cambridge University. Both he and Mrs Thatcher will make speeches. The summit will take place at Downing Street the following day.

Yesterday Mrs Thatcher, in an interview with *The Sunday Telegraph*, emphasized that she was no longer worried about German reunification. What previously concerned her, she said, was "that the Germans were pressing ahead without heed to the external consequences".

Problems such as the future of Soviet troops in East Ger-



Herr Kohl seems to accept reunification may take time.

many, the effect on NATO of German reunification and the Polish border issue, could have been foreseen, she said, "yet no one was trying to tackle them". She went on: "So I was nattering and nagging away and, yes, I did start to get those problems tackled."

Mrs Thatcher ruled out the possibility of Britain increasing its contributions to the European Community to help pay for German reunification. She said: "Had it been in the queue with other nations, we should not have admitted East Germany to the EC because it does not fulfil the basic conditions. It does not have a full democracy or a market economy."

Downing Street officials said yesterday that Mrs Thatcher wanted a united Germany but the process of reunification had to be carried out "in an orderly manner".

Mrs Thatcher sent personal congratulations to Herr Kohl after the results of the East German elections which demonstrated a clear vote in favour of reunification and of the Chancellor's political tactics.

## Thirst for revenge pushes Kosovo towards the abyss

From Philip Jacobson, Podujevo, Yugoslavia

As Yugoslav Army tanks took up positions around this stronghold of Albanian nationalism over the weekend, several hundred young people were gathering for what has become a ritual confrontation in the main square.

When the first shouts of "Democracy now" ring out, police radios start crackling and the heavily armed riot squads stationed at every corner lower their visors, adjust their bullet-proof vests and slide tear gas canisters on to their rifles.

The next move usually depends on the mood of the crowd: the surest indication of imminent trouble is the number of protesters with vinegar-soaked strips of cloth ready to protect faces from the acid

fumes. After countless previous clashes in Podujevo's dusty back alleys, the riot police — mostly special squads despatched by Serbia — can usually sense what is coming and sometimes strike first with a barrage of canister rounds followed by ruthless baton charges.

Broken heads, broken limbs, lungs seared by gas: these nasty close-quarter encounters have been erupting spasmodically for months, in Podujevo and other defiant Albanian towns all over Kosovo.

Earlier this year more than 20 civilians were reported to have died, a number of them from high-velocity bullets, while at least one policeman was killed and dozens more were injured.

One asks how long this incessant skirmishing can continue before

the deep and unceasing hostility dividing Kosovo's 2.1 million ethnic Albanians and 200,000 Serbians boils over into an orgy of communal violence.

The climactic moment could well have arrived at the weekend, after reports that several hundred Albanian children had been rushed to hospital with suspected poisoning.

In no time lurid rumours blaming "the Serbs" were doing the rounds, and the first random attacks against them — and some ethnic Montenegrins — had begun in several areas of Kosovo.

A laconic witness described one vicious incident in his small town: "They pulled this Serbian guy out of his house and down a side street and gave him a real going over, but they didn't want to finish him off."

In these charged circumstances, it hardly matters that medical investigations have apparently produced no evidence of poisoning or of a mysterious mass illness.

The Serbian connection is now too firmly established, the desire for revenge uppermost in too many Albanian minds. "Kosovo has just taken a big stride towards the precipice," concluded one local journalist.

As for the deeply apprehensive Serbian community, living mostly in isolated and vulnerable villages, the only course now is to demand force and more force from their revered strongman in Belgrade, Mr Slobodan Milosevic, the Prime Minister. At the weekend, amid claims that the poisoning scare had been a provocation by Albanian extremists, "Slobo" took control of

internal security in Kosovo, removing Albanian police officers from any direct involvement in the front line.

According to some first-hand reports, the Albanian police — whose reluctance to wade in against their compatriots is increasingly evident — are now looking the other way when Serbs are attacked.

By contrast, their Serbian replacements, who searched my car from bonnet to boot and punctuated abuse of foreign reporters with emphatic thumps on the roof, appeared to relish the prospect of an even freer hand.

Many Albanian activists believe the crunch cannot be avoided much longer. The widespread protests and ferocious response expected with this week's first

anniversary of the state of emergency in Kosovo could provide the spark.

Another theory is that Mr Azem Vllasi, the former leader of the province's Communist Party, who is on trial for "counter-revolutionary acts" since last October, might soon be convicted and severely punished. That would certainly result in mass demonstrations with further bloodshed virtually unavoidable.

Now that the federal army has returned in force to the main trouble spots, both sides may again draw back from the brink of outright civil war. But with hatred feeding daily on the mutual exchange of threats, it is becoming harder to find Albanians or Serbs who believe there is any hope of a peaceful settlement.



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# TOSHIBA



# Nixon bares his soul in memoirs of Watergate affair

From Peter Stothard  
US Editor, Washington

Sixteen years after resigning the presidency of the US, Mr Richard Nixon has re-entered the debate about Watergate, describing the affair which brought him down as "one part wrongdoing, one part blundering, and one part political vendetta by my enemies".

In emotional memoirs to be published next month, the former President describes how, after leaving the White House in August 1974, he became a virtual "vegetable" with neither a cause to fight for nor a reason to live. In charting his subsequent political rehabilitation to elder statesman and White House confidant, Mr Nixon returns to the attack against what he calls the "myths" surrounding the 20th century's most famous break-in.

Echoing the language that has marked 44 years in politics, he

attacks the "blatant double-standards" and "baseless charges" of the liberal establishment which he believes brought him down.

Among the most flagrant falsehoods, he says, are the myths that he ordered the attempt to bug the Democratic National Committee rooms on June 17, 1972, that the CIA obstructed the subsequent FBI inquiry on White House orders, and that he paid the Watergate burglars to keep silent about their motives.

The Nixon version is that he erred in not establishing "a moral tone" which would have prevented "illegal" activities which were "not unusual in political campaigns". The CIA, he points out, ignored his request to intervene in the FBI investigation. He did not pay the burglars, he writes; he only considered paying them.

Not surprisingly the early verdict in Washington was that the

book, whose highlights are to be featured in *Time* magazine this week, is a "tilting at windmills". "It sheds more light on the remarkable new confidence of its writer than on the crimes of his time in office," commented one veteran observer. "Nixon still does not answer the real charges."

One of the former President's still controversial arguments is that the tactics of the 1972 Democratic campaign were being set by the candidate, Mr George McGovern, and not by the national party officer; that, therefore, whoever ordered the "pathetic target" of the break-in "knew little about politics"; that, therefore, he could not be Richard Milhous Nixon.

In his recent biography of Mr Nixon, Mr Stephen Ambrose, the historian, develops at least one of the reasons why the choice of target would have been attractive

to the President. It might, he says, have provided information on the secret funds being given to the Democrats by Howard Hughes, the billionaire who was also a generous contributor to the White House and possessor of many unsavoury Nixon secrets.

Such detail is now, however, mainly of interest to professional "Watergate" men. The most disgraced President of modern times has already become a respected source of wisdom on foreign affairs, particularly on the Soviet Union and China. He seems to think that the time is ripe for his full rehabilitation.

New facts are not necessary to win public redemption and may even impede the process. Baring the soul is what brings the converts. First, in the trauma after his resignation, the former President reveals that he considered refusing President Ford's pardon.

Only mental and physical collapse, imminent bankruptcy and the impossibility of "the epitome of evil itself" getting a fair trial, made the acceptance inevitable.

Later, he describes how he almost died of blood clots brought about by his mental state. He and his wife, who "seldom revealed our physical disabilities to each other", broke the habit of personal secrecy as he told her, after four transfusions, that he "didn't think he was going to make it".

Mrs Nixon suffered a stroke after the resignation. The immediate responsibility for this is laid on Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, the reporters whose revelations about Watergate punctuated the long presidential decline.

"One day a well-meaning member of our staff sent her a particularly vicious book written by two *Washington Post* staff members," he writes. "It was the

last thing she read before tragedy struck." Mrs Nixon survived and rebuilt a withered arm on an exercise wheel.

He saved his own life, he says, by golf. But physical recovery was not enough ("a healthy vegetable is still a vegetable") and he plunged into his memoirs, seeking the "therapy needed for a full spiritual recovery".

He also needed the money. He describes the cost of defending himself from legal actions relating to his presidency as a "staggering \$1.8 million (£1.2 million)". He is scornful of overpaid "lobbyists" and PR hacks who rip off their employers so shamelessly. He writes proudly how no one in the Nixon Administration profited from Watergate, in contrast with previous scandals with which it was often compared, Teapot Dome and the Grant Whisky frauds. The once famous White

House Press Secretary, Mr Ron Ziegler, first described Watergate as "a third-rate burglary" — "apdly", as its central figure writes even now.

Mr Nixon wants the affair to be seen as a "tragedy of errors" in which the biggest tragedy is the way it has overshadowed every achievement of his presidency, in the Middle East, in arms reductions, and in relations with the communist world.

He seems happy to spread initiation among those who still hold him in contempt if he can win greater admiration among those who share his own view of himself. He quotes a line of Sophocles that "one must wait until the evening to see how splendid the day has been".

"There is still some time before the sun goes down," he writes, "but the day has indeed been splendid."

## Hawke set to keep power after election cliff-hanger

From Christopher Thomas, Canberra

Australia's governing Labor Party is likely to be returned to power with a razor-thin majority after one of the closest general election battles on record.

It may be another day or two before Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, knows whether he will be able to form the next administration. A hung parliament is an outside possibility.

But he said emphatically as he returned to his official Canberra residence last night: "We have won." Even so, he could hardly claim to have won a mandate from an electorate that plainly wanted a change but did not trust the alternatives.

All eyes will be focused today on the marginal Queensland seat of Kennedy, where voting will resume after being postponed in four polling stations because of floods. If it falls to Labor, Mr Hawke ought to be able to stay in power. If the opposition Liberals take it, the chances of a hung parliament will increase, with one or two independents possibly holding the balance of power.

Election night on Saturday produced bizarre scenes as counting went on in Canberra. At one point both Mr Hawke and Mr Andrew Peacock, the Liberal leader, declared that they were winning. The trend swung to and fro, confounding pundits and leaving even computers unable to say which way it was going.

By yesterday morning Mr Peacock had lost his confidence, saying he thought a hung parliament was distinctly possible and also acknowledging that Labor might get back with a small majority.

Results declared so far gave 73 seats in the 148-member House of Representatives to Labor, 64 to the Liberal-National Party coalition, and one to an independent contender, Mr Ted Mack, who could end up as the tie-breaker in a hung parliament.

Mr Mack, who took the constituency of North Sydney

from the Liberals, is the first independent elected to the House for more than 40 years. A second independent contender, Mrs Helen Caldicott, an anti-nuclear campaigner, also stands a good chance of getting elected.

The result remains to be declared in 10 constituencies, with the Liberals expected to win several, narrowing the gap with Labor.

The election produced a record 11 per cent vote for the small Australian Democrats, but still they did not manage to capture a single seat. Mrs Janine Haines, the party leader, who gave up a Senate seat to fight for the House of Representatives, was defeated by a Labor candidate. She immediately announced that she would leave politics. The party will have a caretaker leader until a permanent head is selected.

Mr Charles Blunt, head of the National Party, faces possible defeat when the result of a neck-and-neck battle with Mrs Caldicott is declared after the distribution of preference votes from the defeated Democrats.

Labor took a mauling in Victoria, losing eight and possibly nine seats to the Liberals — a result that reflected the unpopularity of the Labor-run state government. Labor also did badly in Western Australia, again reflecting dislike of the state administration.

Mr Peacock said last night that he would be Prime Minister if the National Party, whose support collapsed in Queensland and northern New South Wales, had fared better. "We took 13 seats from the Labor Party. With a couple of more seats from the National Party we would have been in," he declared.

Overall the result amounted to a rebuff to both main parties. Privately senior Labor Party officials were expressing some astonishment that the electorate had not soundly rejected the Government over the state of the economy and high mortgage rates.



Mr Bob Hawke, Australia's Prime Minister, hugging his wife Hazel amid predictions that he had won a fourth term.

## Maverick may hold final key

From Robert Cockburn, Sydney

Australia's closest federal election in 30 years could see the balance of power rest with a first-time independent candidate, Mr Ted Mack, who lives in his North Sydney constituency — on Neutral Street.

Mr Mack, the only independent in 26 years to win a seat in the House of Representatives, was celebrating at home on Saturday night. As the prospect of a hung parliament emerged, television's political pundits named him as the man most likely to hold the deciding vote.

There were wild cheers. But who, the pundits wanted to know, was this newcomer who may end up defying the corporate and trade union influences that dominate the

two main parties? Within minutes, an outside broadcast van was setting up a satellite dish on Neutral Street.

Mr Mack was soon airing his views to the nation on the inquiry of the two-party system. He captured the electorate's often-voiced disillusion with the main parties, pointing to the trouncing he gave the Liberals in what was considered one of their safest seats since its creation in 1949.

Mr Mack, a mild-mannered architect aged 54, beat Mr John Spender, QC, a Liberal MP, described as an "absentee landlord" with a swing of 23 per cent. As a former mayor of North Sydney, Mr Mack is hugely popular for fighting local grievances, notably against rampant commercial

developments encouraged by the state.

In his study, he explained, what he believes Australians now want from government.

"In Australia we've probably had the world's most rigid two-party system for the last 70 years," he said. "People are realizing it is not working and it excludes the general public with its big union, big media and big commercial interests. For the first time in Australian history, 30 per cent of the electorate has voted against the main parties."

North Sydney, portrayed by the media as Australia's most educated and politically knowledgeable constituency, has provided a "future shock" he said.

"There's been a major poli-

tical shift in the last 10 years, which has happened all over the world," he said. "It's been slower here, of course, but the same factors are at work — the ethics of participation, whereby people demand the right to be involved in decisions that affect them. It really doesn't matter if it's East Germany, South Africa or Australia."

A "classic non-joiner", he has no affiliations with political parties or trade unions and refuses to do deals with Labor or the Liberals while this election remains undecided. If it comes to the crunch, his views would support tax levels to invest more in education, health and public services, and he would give rebates to people who did not run cars.

## Peking warns of Games sabotage

From Catherine Sampson  
Peking

The Chinese leadership has warned against anyone planning to sabotage the Asian Games, to be held in Peking in September, saying publicly for the first time that some people intend to do just that.

"Enemies within and without the country have adopted open and secret means of creating incidents and stirring up trouble with the aim of sabotaging the Asian Games," said Mr Li Ximing, secretary of Peking's Communist Party. He gave a warning that "anyone who sabotages the stability of the capital or sabotages the Asian Games will suffer the sanctions of the law".

For the Chinese leadership the Asian Games are a matter of national pride and afford an opportunity to present a modern and even sophisticated face to the world.

Many foreign diplomats compare the Games to last year's Sino-Soviet summit — both high-profile events with a big media presence — and suggest they could well turn into the occasion of anti-government protests.

Peking residents privately express their resentment of government spending on the Games. "It is disgusting," said one man. "They are spending millions on building sports stadiums while we live in hovels, and we get no benefit from the Games."

With the approach of a series of sensitive anniversaries culminating in June 4, security remains tight in Peking. Yesterday afternoon about 200 soldiers, some in full combat gear, were doing riot and drill training opposite Tiananmen Square.

Small-scale acts of defiance continue. Journalists spotting an anti-Li Peng poster pasted on a tree say plainclothes police appeared within minutes and held up sheets of newspaper to conceal the poster from the curious eyes of bystanders.

At the continuing session of parliament there has been no such defiance. But cracks have appeared in the media, with some newspapers making mild but significant criticisms of the Government.

## ANC's hard man heading for home

From Fred Bridgland  
Johannesburg

Mr Chris Hani, chief of staff of Umkonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), the military wing of the African National Congress, was scheduled to arrive here last night for "talks about talks" on a new constitutional future for South Africa.

ANC sources were being almost as coy about Mr Hani's arrival as they had been when, as the hard man of the organization, he used to slip into the country clandestinely to organize bombings which have killed blacks and whites.

But the South African Press Association, quoting a senior ANC source, said Mr Hani, aged 47, and a number of other top ANC officials who have been in exile for years, would fly from Lusaka, Zambia, to begin talks with the government delegation led by President de Klerk. The ANC delegation will be led by Mr Nelson Mandela, its vice-president.

Mr Hani, whose early ambition was to be a Roman Catholic priest and who has been known to recite Shakespeare to foreign correspondents, combines intellectual dynamism with ruthlessness.

Explaining the philosophy behind Umkonto's bombings, he said less than two years ago: "Our intention is to make them (white South Africans) see. When they are maimed and they are in hospital others will visit them and say: this is the price of apartheid."

Asked about the toll of the bombing campaigns on blacks, Mr Hani replied: "A few blacks were maimed in a land mine blast in Eastern Transvaal. Their response was: I am sorry I lost a leg, but I know the action was not intended for me."

Mr Hani is a graduate in Latin and English from Fort Hare University and the predominantly white Rhodes University in Grahamstown. He joined Umkonto in 1962, fled into exile in 1963 and received military training in the Soviet Union. He is one of many in the South African Communist Party with high rank in the ANC.

Mr Hani's reputation as a tough leader was enhanced in 1984 when he helped put down a mutiny in a notorious ANC "re-education camp" in Angola.

Mr Hani succeeded Mr Joe Slovo, the South African Communist Party leader, as Umkonto chief of staff in 1987. His name is mentioned in the same breath as Mr Thabo Mbeki, aged 47, the ANC's foreign secretary, as a possible future ANC leader.

He is expected to be accompanied by four senior ANC members. Mr Aziz Pahad, Mr Reg September, Miss Phyllis Naidoo and Mr Penwell Maduna, who have been in exile for many years.

Mr Jacob Zuma, Umkonto's intelligence chief, arrived in South Africa on Friday and immediately began talks with the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, which is responsible for arranging the "great indaba" (meeting) on South Africa's future.

Johannesburg's *Sunday Times* reported yesterday that the Government will propose joint committees of government and ANC representatives to deal with proportional representation, a Bill of Rights, the economy and the judiciary.



Mr Hani: Seen as a possible future leader of the ANC.

## 34 killed as storms hit Bangladesh

Dhaka (AP) — Two days of storms pounding most parts of Bangladesh have left at least 34 people dead, 800 injured and thousands homeless.

Homes were blown away and rice crops were uprooted in storms that began on Friday night and continued yesterday, police said.

### Kashmir death

Srinagar (Reuters) — Mr Ghulam Mustafa, a Kashmiri politician who had been kidnapped, was found dead and Muslim militants said they had hanged him.

### Hijacker held

Valence (AFP) — French police arrested a man with a knife who hijacked a bus near Lyons and forced the passengers out.

### Poll shooting

Harare (AFP) — Mr Patrick Kondeba, a senior official of the opposition Zimbabwe Unity Movement, underwent surgery after being shot in violence ahead of Zimbabwe's general elections this week.

### Mosque blast

Nicosia (Reuters) — A detonator exploded outside a mosque here, causing slight damage but no injuries.

### Planes crash

Bogota (AFP) — Fourteen people died in three separate crashes of light aircraft.

## Paradise prepares for doomsday

From Martin Fletcher, Livingston, Montana

There is even a separate bunker for livestock — a latter-day Noah's Ark.

No matter that the Cold War is over. The people are religious extremists, members of the Church Universal and Triumphant, the latest in a long line of apocalyptic movements in America.

They believe the day of reckoning is coming. They have adopted the virulent anti-communism of their leader, Elizabeth Clare Prophet, whom they call "Mother" or "Guru Ma".

They have absorbed her belief that *prestrakia* and *glasnost* are Soviet tricks to dupe the West into lowering its guard. When Mother warned last month that March and April were a time of particular danger in world affairs, with the danger peaking on April 23, they knew exactly what she meant.

Across America, hundreds sold their homes and businesses, hurred trailers, and set off with their children and belongings for Paradise Valley. Some came from England.

Mrs Prophet claims that through her speak the saints in heaven, the Ascended Masters. She conceived the idea of the bunkers three years ago after Saint Germain (Merlin the Magician and Francis Bacon in two of his earthly incarnations) warned her that the Russians might launch a nuclear first strike. Work actually began last May and now, just in time, they are virtually ready. Rick and Deborah Spielmaker, breeding Mother's warning, arrived last

month with their daughter, Leah, aged six months, from Salt Lake City and paid \$18,000 (£12,000) for a mobile home a few hundred yards from the huge A-shaped bunker in which they have reserved 26,000 places.

The shelter is secure from electro-magnetic pulses with false generators and air-filtration systems, linoleum on the floors and formica on the walls. When World War Three begins they and their baby will share a 78 by 8 ft room containing three double bunks with two other couples that they hardly know.

Further up the hill Michael and Jeannie Campbell live with their six-year-old and four-year-old daughters in the \$40,000 "convertible" one-family shelter. The front living area has windows, but they are blocked out by sheets of steel and 3 ft of earth.

Behind, dug into the hillside, are five rooms with concrete walls 1 ft thick.

Mrs Doris Davis, a Californian divorcee aged 51, with four grown children, said: "We hope for the best and prepare for the worst."

Traders in Livingston report a run on sleeping bags, torches and similar goods, but many locals who are not benefiting financially resent this sudden invasion.

Environmentalists are up in arms. The local planning and health authorities have combed the many bunkers — some 40 in all — for violations, threatening action if they are occupied, because they lack adequate sanitation. More

orthodox churches have opened a sanctuary for teenage children wishing to escape from the communities, and the state legislature has urged Montana's governor to declare a state of emergency and order a full investigation.

Mrs Prophet's first husband founded the Church in 1958 at the bidding of El Morya, an Ascended Master who was once Thomas More. He bought the 12,500-acre Royal Teton Ranch in 1981 and now has a total of 33,000 acres in Paradise Valley. The size of its membership, like other things, it keeps secret.

American history is rife with religious groups proclaiming similar apocalyptic visions.

The only certainty about all their predictions of doom is that not one has proved correct. This causes little anxiety in Paradise Valley.

Mrs Prophet's prophecies "are given to be changed", explained Mr Murray Steinman, the Church's spokesman. "They are warnings. If nothing is changed, this is what will happen. The events foretold can be mitigated, though not necessarily averted, by prayer."

At Glastonbury the followers are praying hard, and they have their bunkers as their insurance policies. But if nothing happens, they will not question Mrs Prophet's vision. "I would rejoice. I would praise the Lord. We could enjoy a nice summer," said Mrs Spielmaker. Mrs Davis put it another way. "Either way we win."

## Mongolian rally issues call for true democracy

From Catherine Sampson, Peking

Mongolia's opposition movement staged a huge demonstration in central Ulan Bator yesterday demanding the dissolution of parliament and accusing the Government of breaking its promises on free elections.

Some 13,000 demonstrators — of a national population of just two million — gathered in Sukhbaatar Square to demand the mass resignation of the parliament, or Great People's Hural. Leaders of Mongolia's 11 fledgling but proliferating opposition groups made speeches to a well-behaved and banner-waving audience. They called for the adoption of a law ensuring multi-party politics drafted by the opposition.

The demonstration was one of the biggest since the pro-democracy movement emerged in December and came in direct response to the election law passed by the parliament, whose session ended just two days before.

That session did away with the leading role of the Communist Party, but the election law permitting multi-candidate elections for the first time did not clarify whether opposition candidates could stand against Communists. More, it required that elections be held within a socialist framework, and officials talking about the new law implied that parties

which did not profess loyalty to socialism would not be able to take part.

Mr Zorig, leader of the Mongolian Democratic Party and research student in scientific socialism, said: "They have satisfied our demands by only 30 per cent."

While Mr Zorig's party says it is loyal to Marxism-Leninism, other parties have declared opposition to socialism and fear that they would not be allowed to take part in elections under the new law. They believe that the Communists, making up 93 per cent of the Parliament, are still trying to keep a *de-facto* monopoly on power.

Mongolia's Politburo has been replaced in response to opposition pressure, and last week's Parliament elected a new President and Prime Minister. Although the opposition has voiced its fear of government-ordered violence to silence them, there has been no sign of this. The ruling party has said it would not use force, and is willing to co-operate. Analysts, however, say it is not clear how much further the Government will be pushed by demonstrators.

China congratulated the new Prime Minister and President on Saturday, but made no mention of the abolition of the Communists' monopoly on power.



# TIMES DIARY

SHERIDAN MORLEY

With a healthy sense of priorities, Neil Kinnock was to be found late last Thursday not crouched over a television awaiting the Mid-Staffordshire result, but joining our leading dramatists and actors at a Barbican party for Vaclav Havel, the new president of Czechoslovakia. In his speech, Havel suggested to his fellow RSC dramatists that they too should aim for such a position — if only to ensure their plays were staged exactly as written.

As Terry Hands explained, the RSC's links with Havel go back to a production of his *Tempest* in 1987, and Barry Kyle will continue the association with a production of *King Lear* for the Czech National Theatre.



Havel: words of advice

soon. But it is a non-RSC director, Sam Walters of the minuscule but courageous Orange Tree pub theatre in Richmond, who has remained most faithful to Havel over the years. Having staged six of his plays in the past decade (a seventh, suitably entitled *Redevelopment*, is due there in the autumn), Walters travelled to Prague in November to talk about a new one: "I went expecting to meet, with some difficulty, a dissident dramatist, but the revolution happened while I was en route, and by the time I got there my playwright was on a balcony addressing half a million people and changing the world. All I'd really gone for were some minor changes in the last act."

● An early rave for Peter Flannery's *Shogun*, a remarkable tragic-comedy about revenge and survival in the 40 years of post-war Britain. Leaving a preview in the Barbican Pit, Peter Palumbo, Arts Council chairman, was heard to say: "This play alone makes the case for subsidy."

Let us consider, briefly, what the late Walt Disney has to offer the late William Shakespeare. Within a small area south of Southwark Bridge we have no fewer than three rival excavations. There is Lord Hanson in more-or-less proud possession of the original Globe site; there is the Rose revived; and there is Sam Wanamaker, who, at considerable financial and career cost, has spent 20 years trying to bring Shakespeare back to life in its original, or near-original, setting.

The danger is that the three projects will degenerate into bickering on separate committees, if not intercommunal warfare. What we need, adapted from old Walt in Florida and California, is Shakespeareland: an upmarket intellectual and academic artistic Disneyland where tourists and



Wanamaker and life-long inspiration

scholars alike can spend a day and/or night surrounded by Shakespearean theatres, museums and perhaps even a 16th century-style restaurant. Ideally, Wanamaker should be asked to preside over a scheme which would unite the individual sites under one organization while allowing each to preserve its original intentions.

Little more than a month after the fire that destroyed the interior of the Savoy Theatre, enough smoke has cleared for its manager, Julian Courtenay, to estimate the extent of the rebuilding problems. Several million pounds will be required to restore the theatre to its art-deco glory — the money, fortunately, will be provided by the insurance company — and the task will take at least a year. Some of the principal losses were the proscenium panels created in 1929 by Basil Ionides when the 1881 structure was rebuilt. There are photographs of these and considerable documentation, but nothing that reveals the details in adequate close-up.

Forensic experts are still baffled by the cause of the fire. "What also appears to mystify them," says Courtenay, "is exactly how Paul Daniels achieved his levitation act during his last season here."

A new story — well, new to me — about Maurice Barrymore, father of Lionel, Ethel and John and himself an actor of considerable distinction. At his funeral, the supporting straps of the coffin became entangled as it was being lowered into the grave and it had to be raised to the surface again. "Typical of father," said Lionel. "another blasted curtain-call."

What a smashing place Torquay is! The sun shines out over the bay, the mayor kisses you, and the Imperial Hotel lends you an Italian silk tie (if you have left your own at home) that looks far more expensive than anything you own yourself.

"And Torquay's changed," the lady taxi-driver confided. "I shouldn't say this, but I will: you couldn't get green peppers here five years ago."

The Imperial was splendid. You would not, of course, expect the National Caravan Council, which I had come to address, to hold its conference in — no, let me not be childish to my pleasant hosts. We could not have fitted into a caravan, anyway.

Green peppers are not the only novelty to have hit the town. Mounting the rostrum, glancing nervously at the massed ranks of the cream of the caravaning

As he climbed into the pulpit at St Paul's to preach his famous Falklands sermon in 1982, for an instant the light caught the Archbishop of Canterbury's Military Cross, discreetly pinned that day to his cassock. It was a sudden and unexpected reminder that here was a brave man who once saved a fellow soldier on the battlefield at the risk of his own life, who once took a tank into an open field under close, intensive fire from German guns.

It is a sterling characteristic of Robert Alexander Kennedy Runcie, MC, that he does not lack courage — when he knows what he has to do. But even to this day he has hardly made up his mind about the wisdom and righteousness of the Falklands campaign. Then and since, he has neither defended it nor attacked it; he is by temperament and principle neither a pacifist nor a nationalist.

But he did not shrink from delivering the sermon his conscience felt was right at the national Falklands service, in which he called for prayers for both British and Argentine casualties and their families. Quite calmly, and without regard for the consequences for himself, he told the congregation,

Clifford Longley on Dr Runcie's outstanding achievement

## The world is his cloister

tion, which included royalty, politicians and servicemen, that "war springs from the love and loyalty which should be offered to God being applied to some God substitute, one of the most dangerous being nationalism..."

It was he, above all, who had insisted beforehand that the service should be a service of reconciliation and not a jingoistic "thanksgiving for victory", and he also knew, because they had told him so, that neither the Roman Catholics nor the Free churches would agree to take part in the service, and that the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's would revolt, if it were allowed to become a celebration of British military triumph.

From that moment on, the more blimpish parts of the Tory party and press had him marked in their sights as an enemy, a softy and a wet; and in the long run some of the mud stuck to him, as mud does. It is, however, merely a myth circulated by her courtiers that the Prime Minister

was angry with him. In fact she congratulated him on his sermon that day.

Since then Dr Runcie has said that he is puzzled by the common press perception of a state of war between himself and Mrs Thatcher, which has never corresponded to the way she actually treats him personally. Nevertheless they are, temperamentally, poles apart. It has never seemed to him that there was very much wrong with the post-war British welfare state consensus, and the more dramatic moments of its breaking up, such as the miners' strike in 1984, pained him greatly.

There is in his make-up a streak of indecisiveness which has sometimes been mistaken for lack of courage. Successful visitors of opposing views, meeting him in his study in Lambeth Palace for a reassuring word, are likely to come away glowing with the warmth of their welcome, convinced he is on their side. Probably, at the moment he was

speaking to them, he was. But while this tendency to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds has made him personally popular in the church and a good pastor of souls — it has been at the expense of clear leadership. Too much sensitivity to all the pros and cons of every argument is an asset in a theology lecturer (which he once was), but does not make for firmness of purpose in a Primate of All England. For that, one has to be prepared not only to win friends, but also to lose them.

He has sometimes been reluctant to seize the initiative, therefore, or once having seized it, he has let it slip again. Dr Runcie tends to want conflicting and irreconcilable things for the Church of England, and for the Anglican Communion whose worldwide leader he also is: women priests and full communion with Rome, for instance; a united church in which everyone of whatever persuasion feels at

home; a close relationship with the nation and a distance from the government the nation has elected.

Mostly this brings an unfair impression of weakness, but it brings him one great strength — very many ordinary Anglicans share this optimistic or confused vision, and so their leader is just like them. Had he chosen a different career, a country solicitor, perhaps, or breeder of prize pigs, he would have been a mainstay of the local church: churchwarden, school trustee, deanery synod member, one of the nicest men in the diocese whom everyone liked and trusted. There is a Mr Anglican Everyman quality to the present Archbishop of Canterbury, which perhaps explains the unkind comment sometimes heard that too many of his fellow bishops are "Runcie clones".

In truth, they are just typical Anglicans like him. The most notorious of the grievances aired by the late Dr Gareth Bennett in

his famous *Crackdown* Preface was that the Archbishop had peopled the bench of bishops with his friends and familiars, almost as a kind of conspiracy. He had failed to notice that the whole preferment process in the Church of England had become a smooth machine for moving nice men like Dr Runcie upwards.

All these apparent weaknesses have corresponding strengths, however, and Dr Runcie has never buried his talents in a field. If it is possible to hold the Church of England together by charm, goodwill, affection and tolerance, then he has succeeded.

Even more, the Anglican Communion — no insignificant world body, with 60 million members, and growing — is ideally suited to such a leadership style. It does not want a pope, and each of the 26 separate churches or "provinces" likes to create an Archbishop of Canterbury in its own image. He lent himself to that, deliberately and magnificently. It is a quite undefinable thing, an Anglican Communion; except that, for the moment, it can be defined by its enormous affection for its head man, and that it will miss him. He has become, briefly, himself, its source of unity. That is no small achievement.

Anatol Lieven

## Crackdown by proxy?

Vilnius

Several Western journalists covering the unfolding drama in Lithuania have spent the last two days in a lunatic asylum outside Vilnius. One wing has been turned into a centre of refuge for Lithuanian deserters from the Soviet army, under the protection of the newly refounded Lithuanian Red Cross. If the army launches a limited action to seize deserters, this building will be an obvious target.

The 26 youths there are calm and brave in the face of the possibility of arrest and a long term in a military prison, though their attitude may be due in part to what appears to be an exaggerated belief in the effectiveness of international moral outrage.

For the past two nights, I have bedded down on a sofa in the Supreme Council building, the most obvious target of a full-scale military takeover. For all of us, the strain and lack of sleep are having an effect. Several have begun to see things — tanks, mostly. Some, unfortunately, have reported these hallucinations to the world.

While journalists and local politicians are in a state of high excitement, the people are remarkably calm. If this really is a war of nerves, the public mood in Vilnius suggests that Moscow is losing it hands down.

Most people I spoke to in the street yesterday said they did not think military intervention likely. If it did occur, few had considered what they would do. Young men seemed positively embarrassed when I asked them if they would fight, as if I had committed a gauche by being so melodramatic.

Most, however, answered in the end that they would fight if necessary. Some of the more radical Sąjūdis deputies are talking of armed resistance, but their plans seem embryonic, and they are being discouraged by most of the leadership.

The strong element of natural reserve in the Lithuanian character is probably the leadership's greatest asset in its dealings with Moscow. It means that there have been no "provocative" acts from the Lithuanian side — even the statue of Lenin in Vilnius still stands. To this is added the nature of the leadership itself. This is a bourgeois revolution, and Professor Landsbergis and his colleagues will try to stick to legal means to the end, whatever the Soviet provocation.

Many people yesterday still doubted the news that a Soviet armoured column had passed through Vilnius in the early hours of Saturday and camped at a military base in the north of the city. I witnessed this, with a group of deputies who had run from the Supreme Council across the road to look down on the underpass through which the column was driving.

Half an hour before, as the column's approach was reported, the deputies had passed an emergency resolution establishing a government in exile, in

case theirs was suppressed. However, it soon became obvious from the route the column was taking that the city was not being occupied. When the column had gone by, one of the deputies said: "What did I tell you — bluff?"

Most of the Moscow correspondents who have arrived in Vilnius in recent days seem to think that President Gorbachev would not dare risk the international hostility that would result from a military crackdown; economic and political conditions in the Soviet Union simply do not allow it.

There remains the possibility, which the Lithuanian leadership takes very seriously, that with or without orders from Moscow, actions by emigrant Russian and Polish members of the Lithuanian Communist Party, or the army's seizure of deserters, will lead to clashes, and then full-scale intervention.

For the army, the Lithuanian deserters, the total now exceeds 1,000 — are a crucial matter. The 1990 military draft starts this week, and given that ethnic Russians are now a minority in the Soviet Union, especially among those of military age, the generals can only fear that the army will disintegrate.

The officer corps has been used to regarding itself as an elite in Soviet society, untouched by the sordid aspects of Communist party rule. Its members now face not only the possible disintegration of the Soviet Union but an even more immediate blow to their own jobs, prestige and living standards. As the army is cut back, many will be unemployed. For those who stay in the army, standards of accommodation will deteriorate as hundreds of thousands of Soviet troops return from Eastern Europe.

These serving officers have close links with the retired officers who have settled in large numbers in the Baltic republics, and who make up a large part of the leadership of the Soviet loyalist movement there. Given this pressure on the army, rational arguments about a peaceful transformation of the Soviet Union — which in any case looks extremely unlikely — and about the consequences of military action in Lithuania may not apply.

Moreover, these officers may find backing among the local Russian population. These people not only have an imperial outlook but most are ordinary workers, at the bottom of the social barrel, and resent "bourgeois intellectuals" such as Professor Landsbergis. The sullen anger of these poorly dressed, hard-faced men recalls the images of the Russian peasantry as the "dark people" in 19th century Russian literature — a people known for their unpredictable revolt against those seen as their oppressors.

For these reasons, I think that I will stay for a while longer on the sofa of the Supreme Council. Just in case.

Bernard Levin urges the judiciary to abandon its unquestioning assumption that police witnesses have no reason to bend the truth



vince our judges that geese and ganders are both birds? The contempt with which the Appeal judges regarded the defence witnesses springs from the page again and again:

...not worthy of belief... embittered man... make money and blacken the reputation of the police... unrealistic that the police would have attacked before hearing his story... regretted that the two prison officers had ever been called... neither was believed... this document cannot sensibly or seriously be a blueprint for perjury... nothing had emerged which threw doubt on the scientific evidence... the longer the hearing has gone on, the more this court has been convinced the jury was correct.

But I have two more passages to quote from the proceedings, and they may make even Lord Lane pause. "It was highly unlikely West Midlands police would have been allowed to carry out a concerted and speedy attack in a strange police station," and "We have no doubt the evidence given to us... that... the West Midlands police treated these appellants with brutality was false."

A year and a half later, the West Midlands Serious Crime Squad was disbanded in its entirety, for good, and now notorious, reason. If the Appeal Court judges had known the reason at the time of the appeal, would they have delivered the same judgment, oozing as it does frail certainties, unshakable snap impressions, questionable *ipse dixit*, an innate and pervasive sense of their time being wasted, and a robust defence of the West Midlands force?

For answer, I return to the case with which I began today. Lord Lane found it "almost incredible". It is the mercy of God that the prosecution had thrown in its hand before the court assembled, for if his Lordship had found it *entirely* incredible, an innocent man would have stayed in prison for 17 years. No sensible person thinks that all police forces in this country are corrupt; no sensible person thinks most of them are. But all sensible people think some of them are, not least the vile creatures who tried to destroy their fellow-police-man, Mr Corley.

Our judges are honest; very few indeed are stupid. But an appalling number have forgotten, if they ever knew, what the real world is like. Lord Lane's revealing incredulity typifies the attitude. It behoves him and the two other Appeal Court judges who sat with him on the Birmingham case, knowing what they do now, to question themselves pointedly as to whether they have, in all honesty and uprightness, presided over a terrible miscarriage of justice.

At the very least, let them murmur Cromwell's words: "I beseech you, in the bowels of Christ, think it possible you may be mistaken."

Vilnius

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## Cue for recalling a little white lie

world. I caught sight of a green wedge of slanted glass mounted on the lectern, palely luminous in the darkened hall. Aaaah! AutoCue. I hate AutoCue. I knew it wasn't for my speech, yet the very sight of the thing was chilling to the core. And all because of a very elderly lady called Mona who lived in an old people's home in Hampstead.

My friend Carl, on the death of his grandmother, took to visiting the home once a fortnight to talk to some of the residents who had few surviving relatives, and therefore few visitors. Mona was his favourite.

And when she discovered that he was a friend of mine, Carl

became her favourite, too: for she loved the programme I was then presenting on television, *Week-end World*. She watched it religiously every Sunday and was my greatest (perhaps my only) fan. She was, apparently, wild about me personally. Very old ladies often are.

"Carl," she said, "I want you to settle an argument for me. You know that Mr Parris gives long explanations on television of all what his programme's about and such like, and why — with graphs and diagrams and sometimes just him looking at us..."

"Well, he knows it all, doesn't he? There are lots of stupid old women in this home and they all

think he's reading it, off some kind of a machine, invisible to us viewers. They all believe that except me. I know it's really him that's saying it because he knows it. But the others won't have it."

MATTHEW PARRIS

think he's reading it, off some kind of a machine, invisible to us viewers. They all believe that except me. I know it's really him that's saying it because he knows it. But the others won't have it."

They say I'm ignorant and nobody on TV these days would do it without a machine, and they're all really just reading. Tell them they're wrong about Mr Parris."

Tactfully, Carl just said he didn't know, but would ask. He reported this to me. "Tell her she's right," I said. "What can a little lie matter?"

Two weeks later, my AutoCue went haywire. It was in the middle of a complicated passage I was reading, to camera, about the characteristics of the Aids virus. I couldn't understand a word of it myself, but adopted the presenter's "grave-sincere" pose, and ploughed on.

"Funny," I thought, "this pas-

sage about white blood corpuscles sounds familiar. Could it be a case of *déjà vu*?"

It was. The AutoCue had got into some kind of a loop. I had gone back to near the beginning of the programme and was starting all over again. I felt the blood drain from my face. What to do? "Stop!" came the instruction over my earpiece.

I stopped. "Sorry," I said, "but I'm sure I've read that before." I fumbled for the script on my knee — and began reading it in the wrong place.

"Stop!" came the voice. Someone rushed in with a new script and pointed to the right place. And on we went.

Recovering (while a recorded talking head explained more about viruses), an awful thought struck. Mona would be watching. Her hero's answer to her question would be proved a lie, in front of the others. She would be the laughing stock of the home.

A day or so later I learnt that Mona had died, 20 minutes before the programme. I went to her cremation, with Carl. We got there too late. If anyone else had attended, they would have seen me. I hope she would have forgiven me. I didn't want to disappoint her — that was all. Honestly.

Anyway, that was years ago, in the days when you couldn't get green peppers in Torquay. I gripped the lectern firmly, looked over my caravanning audience and, without AutoCue, began my speech.





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## MARCH HARES

Mr Michael Heseltine's increasingly overt bid to lead the Conservative Party — and thus the country — will dominate this week's political debate. Opinion polls at the weekend suggested that, at least by historical standards, the mid-term unpopularity of both Prime Minister and Government is now too intense for comfort. Such predicaments have in the past proved susceptible to remedy, but remedies have usually been drastic — an engineered inflationary boom, policy about-turns, Cabinet reshuffles and changes of leadership.

With up to two years before a general election, all are still available, but it is the last that is currently top of the agenda and needs to be resolved fast. Mrs Thatcher and her advisers must ask themselves, by October at the latest, whether in 1992 she will really be the best person to fend off Mr Neil Kinnock's Labour party. The question should be asked irrespective of the majestic profile of Mr Heseltine looming, pregnant with significance, from every newspaper in the land.

Tardy departure is the occupational hazard of famous prime ministers. Churchill stayed too long. Macmillan stayed too long. Lord Wilson stayed too long. Physical exhaustion, restless rebellious successors, image fatigue, tired and accident-prone acolytes, an agenda empty of novelty, all conspire to thrust a prime minister towards the door — and then back again. "There is so much still to do," is rephrased as the more despairing "But after me, the deluge."

The Conservatives' present unpopularity invites concern but not despair. The economic outlook for 1991-92 portrayed by the Chancellor last week was not hopeless and certainly cheered Tory MPs at the time. Interest rates should soon be falling, and inflation alongside them. The traumas, most of them much-needed, that were inflicted on the education and health services last year should settle down. Even the poll tax should not be as awful in 1991 as this year.

More to the point, Mrs Thatcher bears few of the conventional hallmarks of a dying leadership. After 11 years in office, she is astonishingly fit. Her ambition is untarnished by longevity. She has lost none of her touch as an alley-cat party manager. Her Cabinet is tuned to a near-perfect pitch of loyalty. She has said she will not resign and appears, at present, to mean it. A contested challenge this autumn would almost certainly fail and would merely help Labour.

More important to those who thrice voted her into office, Mrs Thatcher still has firm custodianship of the ark of radicalism which she assumed in 1979. She is what a Prime Minister should always be, critic as well as defender of her Government's actions. She has what Bagehot would have called an anti-ministerialist streak. She makes mistakes. Her biggest since the last election, the poll tax and the inflationary boom of 1987-89, remain to be corrected. The gods of Sheer Necessity will rectify the former. As for the latter, nobody would nominate Mr Heseltine or Mr Kinnock as more assiduous toilers in the anti-inflationary vineyard than is Mrs Thatcher.

The underlying agenda of British politics remains unaltered — the reform of the supply side of the economy, the undermining of long-standing corporatist assumptions, the remoulding of the welfare state to meet soaring demand. Only fools could regard this agenda as either completed or no longer relevant. Mrs Thatcher can reasonably tell her faint hearts either to get out now or knuckle under. She never promised mid-term rose gardens.

Mr Heseltine's response is thus more limited. His supporters claim that whatever Thatcherism promises is electorally jeopardized by the continuation in office of its guiding spirit. The Conservative Party must ask itself whether it prefers to leave Mrs Thatcher in power until 1992, in the hope that she can make her reforms irreversible before a near-certain defeat; or would rather opt for diluted Thatcherism in Mr Heseltine's hands for the next two years, and the chance of victory thereafter.

The choice is not unreasonable, but for the time being it can go only one way. There are simply too many questions hovering over Mr Heseltine's head. He has shown himself uncertain and even disloyal under the pressures of high office. His resignation over Westland was an overreaction and damaging to his party. While he has put together a defence of his corporatism and internationalism, they seem little more than a renovation of old maxims which have long served as excuses for bad old ways.

Mr Heseltine is an interesting, even exciting, political personality. At present, he is just a flash in the pan. If he wishes his challenge to be taken seriously he must state clearly where the party is going wrong, and what he offers his party and country as a better leader than Mrs Thatcher. He must offer it now or not at all.

## HUNGARY'S GLORIOUS UNCERTAINTY

Hungary's first free parliamentary election since 1945 failed yesterday as predicted to produce a decisive, first round verdict. This complexity should not obscure the simple, astonishing fact of its taking place. Last year, Hungarians refused to believe that the communist dictatorship was at last collapsing. This vote refutes their scepticism.

It is less than two years since Mr Janos Kadar, Hungary's leader since the 1956 uprising, was ousted and 14 months since the truth about 1956 was first officially acknowledged. Only six months have passed since Hungarian troops began dismantling the Iron Curtain, the communist Socialist Workers' Party dissolved itself and the parliament it had so long dominated promised free, multi-party elections. The bloodless dissolution of communism has been confirmed by the campaign.

This has been a regular free-for-all, with hecklers, posters and TV advertising. The verve which all except the hardline communists among Hungary's 27 parties and 1600 candidates have brought to the campaign is the most heartening characteristic of Hungary's newly minted political diversity. The play on crude nationalism has been surprisingly muted, given the tumult in Transylvania. Voters have complained about the excess of choice, finding the number of parties and candidates bewildering, but even that shows how swiftly Hungarians have come to take their liberation for granted.

In the absence of a party capable of commanding an absolute majority, the precise complexion of the new government will depend on inter-party negotiations between now and the second round on April 8. But yesterday's results are decisive in two respects.

First, it is now clear that East European communist parties are incapable of retaining, or creating, any political legitimacy. This applies both where, as in Hungary, they dissolved themselves without waiting for the voters' verdict, and where they hung on until forced out. All four leading noncommunist parties have ruled out sharing power with the reformed-communist Socialist Party.

Second, there is no place for that strange-shaped chimera, the "social market", in the lexicon of East European voters. The Hungarian national consensus firmly favours a free market economy: only the timing and pace of market-based reforms are in dispute. The Alliance of Free Democrats favours a "fast track" break with the command economy which, even in its moderate Hungarian form, has bequeathed communism's heirs the largest per capita debt in East Europe and 25 per cent inflation. The Alliance's main rival, the Democratic Forum, which calls itself centre-right but whose nationalist conservative ranks are sprinkled with former communists, would take a more cautious, corporatist approach.

The ring in a governing coalition might be held by the Independent Smallholders, victors in the 1945 election and strong in the countryside. Their central policy, to return all assets seized by the communists to individual owners, would mean administrative pandemonium. A coalition of Free Democrats, Young Democrats and, just possibly, the "left-wing" Democratic Socialists — who are more committed to free markets than the label implies — would put Hungary more rapidly into the camp of West European democratic secularism. That welcome prospect, as much as anything, is what these elections are about.

## THE CANTERBURY SUCCESSION

That the Archbishop of Canterbury should hold one of the most important offices of state is, in a secular nation, a paradox and an anachronism. Whoever succeeds Dr Robert Runcie — whose forthcoming retirement was announced yesterday — will have to force both church and nation to resolve this paradox.

The new archbishop will be appointed by a commission whose chairman will be the personal nominee of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, who will personally choose one of the two names suggested by the commission. The archbishop will also, *ex officio*, be primate of the Anglican Communion throughout the world. Dr Runcie was an effective Anglican primate, but world Anglicanism will not understand why a partisan politician should choose the next one.

The closeness of the church-state relationship over the appointment of bishops and archbishops belongs to the pre-1980s world of consensus politics. Both Mrs Thatcher and Dr Runcie have played their part in bringing the contradictions of that era to a head — she by her aversion to any consensus, he by adhering to it and thus making adherence seem almost a party political position.

Senior churchmen are rarely astute in the secular political arena. Dr Runcie was taken aback by political reaction to the 1986 report he sponsored, *Faith in the City*, and to his interview with *The Director* magazine. He could protest that it was government that had shifted the political ground. He had supported the collectivism espoused by his predecessor, William Temple.

Theologians may debate whether this is the best, or even the only, view a Christian church

can take of political and economic life in a liberal democracy. Voices are beginning to be heard in the Church of England suggesting it is not. The constitutional conflict which emerged under Dr Runcie was not the result of any mistake on his part. He found that circumstance had put Anglicanism where he longed for it not to be, often in the vortex of political battle.

The Roman Catholic Church or the Free Churches — now encompassing a majority of active Christians in Britain — may cross swords with the state if they wish, and no constitutional or doctrinal crisis is caused thereby. But an established Church is a different case. The privileges of its special status mean that, like royalty, it must try to be above all politics. For all the subtle semantics which have long surrounded establishment, there is no avoiding this issue.

Dr Runcie will rightly be remembered as a good archbishop, in all senses of the word. He could well have presided ineffectually over a church breaking up under the tension of some of these contradictions. His primary commitment was to unity, and unity is his greatest legacy to his successor. But he did not fully understand a world fast changing about him, and that deprives him of the epithet of greatness.

Under his 10-year custodianship, the Church of England failed to overcome — rather than interminably debate — the painful challenges it must soon face, from women's ordination and inter-church unity to the great rock of disestablishment itself. It cannot avoid them much longer. Now is the time for tougher-minded leadership.

## Last post for some in 1992?

From Mr Henry Seymour  
Sir, I write to express serious concern over the future of the private-sector postal services that are presently available to businesses and professional people in this country. It is my belief that many firms and practices which rely on *bona fide* independent operators for cheaper, more efficient alternatives to the Post Office are unaware that their freedom of choice is already under threat.

The Green Paper on postal services in the Single European Market, due to be presented in Brussels in June, may, if unopposed, establish a Community-wide monopoly system which will effectively see the end of these alternatives for all communications under a certain weight.

No one argues that there should not be a monopoly to provide consumers and businesses alike with a standard service, at a standard price, which operates equally throughout the country. But it cannot be right that commercial concerns, many of which depend on value-added postal services not provided by the Post Office, should have their freedom of choice and efficiency infringed in this way.

Britain's Euro MPs and the Commission itself have received 2,514 letters of protest from members of the British Document Exchange — a licensed business alternative to the Post Office — over the last four days. I know because I have forwarded them myself.

Yours sincerely,  
HENRY SEYMOUR  
(Managing Director),  
Bridco Ltd,  
DX House, Ridgeway,  
Iver, Buckinghamshire.  
March 23.

## Hereditary disease

From Mrs Lynda Cantor  
Sir, May I take issue with one aspect of Cardinal Hume's article, "Life and the way to moral death" (March 6). The middle part deals with the question of hereditary diseases. "Much is made", he writes (and means, of course, that too much is made), "of the image of compassionate doctors struggling to find ways to eliminate the misery of handicap".

I write as someone with a hereditary disease, *Retinitis pigmentosa*, and as honorary secretary of the society that has raised nearly £2 million for research into its origins, prevention and ultimately, we hope, its cure. In Britain 25,000 families are affected by it and it is the second greatest cause of blindness.

The scientists who receive grants from us need no image-builders, nor are we simpletons duped by hopes of improbable cures. We understand the scientists and they us; in moral matters they give us the facts and then let us make up our mind. We have elected to support them.

Prospective parents will be able to decide for themselves whether to take advantage of scientific advances to avoid transmitting hereditary diseases to their children. Cardinal Hume and those who oppose all research into pre-embryos want to deny that choice by law to their fellow citizens. Where is the morality in that?

Yours faithfully,  
LYNDA CANTOR  
(Hon. Secretary),  
British Retinitis Pigmentosa Society,  
Greens Norton Court,  
Greens Norton,  
Towcester, Northamptonshire.  
March 17.

## Leprosy in Russia

From Dr Michael Ryan  
Sir, Catherine Adams's report of March 16 from Romania gives a moving account of the plight of neglected lepers whose existence the Ceausescu regime had callously attempted to deny. In the Soviet Union, by contrast, it appears that there are now no secrets of that sort.

In conformity with the spirit of *glasnost*, the USSR Health Ministry have recently made available to the general public figures which reveal the incidence of leprosy during recent years.

The official data make clear that there are many cases of this disease, although the numbers have declined substantially, from 7,042 in 1970 to 4,214 in 1988. Each year some 12-15 new registrations occur, and about 1,000 leprosy patients are currently receiving treatment in Soviet hospital institutions.

The authorities have also indicated in which regions cases mainly occur. It is striking that these are not confined to Soviet central Asia but include the estuaries of the rivers Don and Volga. The number of anti-leprosy institutions is given as 16; of these the most important seems to be the Scientific Research Institute for the Study of Leprosy, which is located in Asyrkhan.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL RYAN,  
University College of Swansea,  
Department of Political Theory and Government,  
Singleton Park,  
Swansea, West Glamorgan.  
March 17.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Failures in the pursuit of growth

From Professor A. P. Thirlwall  
Sir, In his article, "Growth: the elusive target" (March 22), Peter Jay says that serious economics must be preoccupied with the question why Britain did so badly in the first 30 years after the war, why it did specially badly in the next dozen years and why it is not likely to do any better from 1992, even on the Chancellor of the Exchequer's own admission.

The proximate answer is relatively simple: it lies in the neglect of the tradeable goods sector. It is a fundamental truism that in the long run no country can grow faster than that rate, consistent with balance of payments equilibrium on current account, unless it can finance ever-growing deficits (which it can't).

Since 1950, Britain has had the lowest average annual growth of export volume of any major industrialised country and one of the highest propensities to import manufactured goods, giving it the slowest growth of output consistent with balance of payments equilibrium. Unless, and until, the country pursues a combined industrial and trade strategy to

boost exports and reduce imports, there is no hope of improvement.

If anything, under the existing regime of *laissez faire*, the situation is worsening. The long-run trend is unfavourable for all major sectors of the balance of payments accounts. Without some reversal, even the relatively low average growth rate of 2 per cent per annum during the 1980s will not be sustainable in the 1990s, let alone the 2.75 per cent which the Chancellor referred to in his Budget speech.

I found it very interesting and revealing that in the whole catalogue of "twists and turns of macro-economic wisdom" that Mr Jay mentions as having been implemented since the war to halt Britain's relative economic decline, a positive and coherent trade strategy was not mentioned — perhaps not surprisingly, because it has never been seriously tried!

Yours faithfully,  
A. P. THIRLWALL,  
University of Kent at Canterbury,  
Keynes College,  
The University,  
Canterbury, Kent.  
March 23.

### Thoughts on Budget

From the Director of Kids' Clubs Network  
Sir, With the lifting of the tax penalty on employer-sponsored child care the Government may belatedly be beginning to confront the child-care challenge.

With at least one child in six leaving school daily for an empty home, the social costs of the shortage of child care for school-age children are frightening. There are only 300 kids' clubs in our network, providing care for 8,500 children.

The Government is relying upon employers to fund the expansion of child care. Not one employer in the country subsidises year-round, out-of-school care for school-age children while their parents work.

We need a national child-care strategy, involving central and local government, voluntary groups, and yes, employers. Substantial Government funding will be needed to underpin this partnership. Yours sincerely,  
TESS WOODCRAFT, Director,  
Kids' Clubs Network,  
279-81 Whitechapel Road, EC1.  
March 21.

From Mr J. B. H. Byfield  
Sir, What can be the possible logic in the Tory concern to bring the standard rate of income tax down to 20 per cent when this will only put even more money in the pockets of those who are in a position to buy goods, be they foreign or British?

### Called to account

From Mr Douglas J. Cusine  
Sir, Your report (March 16) on the freezing of the Lord Provost of Edinburgh's bank account for refusing to pay her poll tax stated that "sheriff officers decided to freeze Mrs McLaughlin's account", and that "sheriff officers could also institute proceedings in court to have the cash paid to them out of her account".

May I point out that sheriff officers are agents who are instructed to collect debts and other

court orders; but they do all of these things only on the instructions of others, which, in the case of the poll tax, is the local authority. They have no power to enforce court orders, nor to take any other enforcement steps of their own volition, and certainly no power to raise court proceedings.

Yours faithfully,  
DOUGLAS J. CUSINE,  
University of Aberdeen,  
Department of Conveyancing and Professional Practice of Law,  
Old Aberdeen.  
March 19.

### Child video evidence

From Dr Eileen Vizard  
Sir, Jennifer Temkin argues correctly ("The Law", March 20) that children's video-recorded evidence should be admitted in cases of suspected sexual abuse. This proposal, from Judge Pigot's advisory group, is greatly welcomed by those who work with abused children and adult abusers.

Much better quality evidence will be elicited from children when the interview is conducted in a child-centred location, with properly trained police and social-work interviewers. Home Office guidance about conducting such interviews already exists, and psychological research indicates that even young child witnesses are reliable, when appropriately questioned.

Pre-recorded interviews of this sort represent an improvement on the video-link (itself a helpful innovation), since the evidence of child witnesses can still be distorted, using leading questions during video-link cross-examination.

If such proposed changes in the law can be coupled with non-custodial treatment options for certain convicted offenders, more abusers may choose to confess and stop abusing children.

Yours sincerely,  
EILEEN VIZARD,  
Newham Child and Family Consultation Service,  
Health Centre,  
84 West Ham Lane, E15.  
March 21.

### No primrose path

From Mr Ralph Thorpe  
Sir, I knew a bank whereon the wild thyme blew... Driving along one of those winding country lanes, of which photographs are taken to illustrate the beauty of the English countryside, and delighting in the primrose-covered banks, I was as amazed as distressed to round a bend and find the bank excavated, the hedge extirpated and the prim-

roses exterminated — in order to make the lane wider for the two-cars-an-hour traffic at Hilfield.

The nearest shop, or even pub, is four miles away. Who will benefit from this desecration?

Yours faithfully,  
RALPH THORPE,  
Durlston Cottage,  
The Downs,  
Swanage,  
Dorset.  
March 21.

From the Director of the Council for British Archaeology  
Sir, In its 1987 election manifesto the present Government committed itself to the introduction of legislation relating to common land in England and Wales. It has had before it since 1986 the report of the Common Land Forum, which demonstrated a remarkable degree of unanimity between conservation and recreation groups on the one hand and land-owning and land-management groups on the other.

As a member of that forum I am concerned that common land legislation should be included in the next Queen's Speech, otherwise the momentum and consensus engendered by the report risks being lost.

One aspect of common land that has received little attention in the present debate is the fact that it has great archaeological significance, both in its own right as material evidence of past forms of land tenure and settlement, and also because traditional methods of common management have ensured the survival of earlier elements of the historic landscape.

Without new legislation there is a grave danger that deregulation of commons to permit development will increase and that some of our best preserved ancient monuments will as a result be destroyed. Yours faithfully,  
HENRY CLEERE, Director,  
Council for British Archaeology,  
112 Kennington Road, SE11.  
March 20.

From Dr W. J. Trowell  
Sir, Mr Chance's difficulties in sleeping under a duvet (Letters, March 17, 24) are as nothing by comparison with mine when I slept under the carpet and curtains (for want of any other cover) when taking — and failing to win — a scholarship at Magdalen College, Oxford in March, 1952. I chose the other place.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN TROWELL,  
Lister House,  
Scaple Tye,  
Great Pardon, Harlow, Essex.

## Threatened bar to court access

From Mr Neil Addison  
Sir, The Bar Council is taking disciplinary action, which could lead to disbarment, against certain barristers who work for firms of solicitors and accountants and who the Bar Council believes are offering legal services directly to the public.

This action is wholly unreasonable. The only justifications the Bar Council puts forward for the rule against direct access relate to advocacy in the higher courts. However, employed barristers have no rights of audience in the higher courts; indeed, their rights of audience are somewhat less than those of solicitors. If the Bar Council were acting reasonably, it would either allow employed barristers full rights of audience or allow them direct access.

It is also questionable whether the rule against direct access is legally enforceable, either by the Bar Council or the Inns of Court. In two cases (*Bennett v Hale*, 1850, and *Kennedy v Braun*, 1862) the High Court has held that barristers have the legal right to deal with the public directly (see "Are the Bar rules lawful?", *The Law Society's Gazette*, October 20, 1988).

The Inns of Court only have power to disbar someone who has ceased to be a "fit and proper person". Since those barristers who are dealing with the public directly are not being immoral or unethical, the Inns of Court could be acting *ultra vires* if they were to disbar them.

Those barristers who are threatened should seriously consider an application for judicial review against the Bar Council and the Inns of Court. I hope they will. Yours sincerely,  
NEIL ADDISON,  
5 Garside Road,  
Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear.  
March 23.

## War crimes trials

From Mr Tom Bower  
Sir, With great respect, Lord Shawcross (March 17) is mistaken to draw any parallel between the Labour Government's discussion and decisions between 1947 and 1948 concerning the termination of war crimes prosecutions in Germany and the situation which Parliament is currently considering.

The Cabinet decision in 1948 was motivated by the onset of the Cold War, the desire to rebuild Germany and most of all as a response to intense pressure by the British military government, which had so steadfastly refused to divert resources to the task. In ending Britain's direct role, the Government nevertheless expected the West German authorities and other European governments to continue the prosecutions.

Cabinet records for 1948 show no sign of the Cabinet having considered the possibility that some of these alleged mass murderers had actually arrived in Britain. If Lord Shawcross had known this to be the case, I am sure that he would have insisted that the suspects should be dealt with. The passing of time cannot dissolve that obligation.

Sincerely,  
TOM BOWER,  
10 Thurlow Road, NW3.

## Baltic prowess

From Professor C. J. F. Dowsett, FBA

Sir, Twenty-six years ago, when a Lithuanian crew which had won the Grand Challenge Cup at Henley was described in your columns as a "Russian" crew, *The Times* generously put matters right by printing, in my letter to your predecessor (July 13, 1964), what was probably the only Lithuanian to appear in a British newspaper. In it I quoted a hopefully apt line from one of the virtually infinite number of *dainas* that are the glory of Baltic poetry.

Now the land that the Russian epic poems (called *byliny*) themselves traditionally laud as "valiant Lithuania" (*Khazarbraja Liva*) is in the news again, having declared its secession from a union to which it was illegally accessioned. A *daina* collected by Juska in the 19th century again seems apt. In it a maiden tells how her sweetheart has opened the granary door with a golden key and rolled away the stone from the door:

*Atakino svirno duris  
Su aukso rakteliu.  
Atirino akmeneli  
Nuo svirno dureliu.*

Friends of Lithuania will hope that he who could be considered to have opened the door to freedom with a golden key will not seek to close it again with one of a baser metal. Yours very truly,  
CHARLES DOWSETT,  
Oriental Institute,  
Oxford.

## Sleeping easy

From Dr W. J. Trowell  
Sir, Mr Chance's difficulties in sleeping under a duvet (Letters, March 17, 24) are as nothing by comparison with mine when I slept under the carpet and curtains (for want of any other cover) when taking — and failing to win — a scholarship at Magdalen College, Oxford in March, 1952. I chose the other place.



# Remembering the horror of Gallipoli

On April 25, 1915, the first wave of an invasion force headed for the beaches of a Turkish peninsula. Nine months later the last survivors crept away, carrying with them memories of a carnage so terrible that, Brian James discovered, they can still hardly bear to describe it

A few old soldiers, not yet faded away, will add a sort of tottering dignity next month to a task-force of dutiful politicians and long-bearded relatives on a pilgrimage to the battlefields of Gallipoli. There, 75 years ago, half a million men became casualties of a grim attritional campaign to establish a foothold on a crucial finger of land.

It was a campaign of a peculiar awfulness, because of the youth of so many involved, because of the close intimacy of much of the fighting, and because the great prizes of Turkey, an incapacitated enemy, and Russia, a revived ally, were there for the taking by more careful hands than those which directed the Allied expeditionary force. But the campaign was inept, the casualties appalling and only the courage of the men on both sides is a subject that permits of no doubts.

The round of services and warship salutes along the Dardanelles on April 25 will honour Anzac Day, so-called because the losses among Australian and New Zealand men were horrific. But scarcely a regiment of the British army, with names from the shores to the highlands, does not carry Gallipoli on its battle honours. India's battalions fought by their side. So did the French.

The star guests around the memorials of Gallipoli, to be attended by the Prime Minister and other politicians of stature, will be men well into their nineties (a half-dozen from Britain, perhaps 50 from Australasia) who trod these hills in 1915.



Fred Wray at the age of 16...

One is Fred Wray, once of the Naval Division. Why go back? "To see what the Turks think of us now: is it all forgotten and forgiven? And to put it behind me. For years, people wanted to hear what happened there, but I couldn't speak of it. It was all too vivid. I would get the quivers... oh look, look at me now." His head went back, his eyes filled with tears.

Mr Wray will be 91 in May. "I celebrated my 16th birthday in the trenches. No one knew. With bully beef and biscuits, and a pint of water every two days, there was not much chance of a party."

He was wounded shortly afterwards. "This Turk got a bayonet in my leg. I scrambled back to my trenches, but I had dropped my rifle in the fight. So the chief petty officer sent me out to no man's land to find another. When I wiped the blood off, it turned out to be a modern Short Lee-Enfield. Bit of a prize, that. Another day five of us ducked

down behind some stores on the beach. I was the only one who got up."

These stories did not emerge easily. It was a feature of every interview that, when asked to talk of Gallipoli, each veteran selected some tale of the comic or bizarre: how the Turks had one day pelted them with figs; how they had played cricket on a half-sheltered beach, knowing that running to retrieve the ball would invite sniper fire. The atrocity of it all had to be mined from their memories.

Was the horror forgotten? Or buried? "I was so young that when I first saw men falling over it just didn't occur to me they would never get up," Mr Wray said. "Dead? I don't think I really took it in. Soon after that your mind goes into shock: you live for the day, a minute at a time. I think some chaps never did come out of it the rest of their days."

Another old soldier joining the British Legion Pilgrimage (the organization is also taking 25 sons and daughters, which means that more than 4,000 relatives will have been escorted on sponsored trips to 37 countries since 1985) is Arthur Bull, once of the Royal Gloucester Hussars. He is braving memories of "a nightmare: you wished you could get wounded, just to get out of there" because "I want to see where my mates are lying, and to make sure someone is looking after the graves."

Lord Granville, of Eye, president of the Gallipoli Association, went to war because "it was going to be all excitement, galloping about on horses, waving swords. Charging. Glory." Many men thought that in 1914, but for



...and today, aged 90, preparing for his return to Gallipoli after 75 years: "Why am I going back? To see what the Turks think of us now - is it all forgiven?"

Edgar Granville there can be the greater understanding because he was barely 16. He had arrived in Australia a year or so before, looking for adventure and finding merely a home with a squatter family. Then he saw a trooper of the Australian Light Horse and was "totally lost. He had these plumes of feathers in his hat, and looked magnificent."

He ran all the way to the recruiting tent, then trudged off, near to tears, when told to "run away and grow up. So I spent six months on Bondi Beach, making myself look bigger and tougher, and went back. They gave us a riding test, taking jumps while sergeants cracked stock-whips to scare the horses. I lost my hat, but stayed on, so I was in."

In Egypt, he took part in one sharp action as a mounted trooper, and then sailed north. "We had no idea where we were headed or why. Nor did we care: I was below decks, gambling. I arrived in the Dardanelles with £800. A

fortune. I went into action at Anzac Cove worrying most about my money-belt."

He told of the first-night charge towards Lone Pine, of endless dangerous forays to fetch water from the rear, or to snatch Turkish prisoners from the front, of being shelled and losing the money-belt in a choked latrine-pit ("and paying a Digger with a strong stomach £20 to get it out").

"I remember Gallipoli. It was hot. It was cold. It was windy. It was wet. It was noisy. It was deadly quiet. But I don't remember being scared of the shooting. My own battle at Gallipoli, was to be accepted as a grown-up, an English kid wanting to be seen as one of these tough Diggers."

Lord Granville, now aged 91, survived a second spell in Gallipoli, two more wounds and a gassing on the Somme, was commissioned and returned to Britain to a life in the inner-circles of Liberal and coalition politics. On Anzac Day he will attend the Westminster, Abbey, service in a congregation that will include the Queen. "I was asked to go to Gallipoli. But I wouldn't want to see the place: I have clear enough memories of how it was."

William Keer, aged 96, had already failed in one attempt to run away to sea when war came. It was, therefore, natural for the City clerk to walk along the Embankment, in London, to HMS President and enlist in the Royal Navy. He was billeted in the grounds of Crystal Palace, taught to sling a hammock and know port from starboard. But he never became a sailor.

By 1915 he, like Mr Wray, had been put into khaki (although keeping his RN hat), taught the basic marching-shooting skills of an infantryman, mustered into the Naval Division ("all the spare stokers, seamen, plus bits and bobs from the regiments") and was en route to the Dardanelles.

He arrived with the second-day wave, on April 26. He was "a bit scared. You could see all around what had been happening. Then it was straight into the trenches, where we stayed without much cover and no relief for nine months. We didn't need telling that it was a disaster."

"Don't think about it a lot. But odd things come back. Like one breakfast, when a runner came round and gave everyone just two figs. Or the

running about the front line, shooting like madmen. They cut us down to a final 30 and, as we slipped away, engineers crept behind us, rigging trip-wires to explosives."

"The two-hour wait on the beach was scary, knowing that there was not a single soul left in our trenches if the Turks advanced. Then I was climbing aboard the destroyer, and hearing this big stoker: 'Right, any of you lads fancy a hot cocoa?' It was like being in Heaven."

Vice-Admiral Sir Aubrey Mansergh, then a 16-year-old midshipman on HMS Queen, was in charge of the battleship's No 1 picket boat, a 52ft

steam launch with a crew of four: "For a very young man, a marvellous command". It became especially so on April 25, when Midshipman Mansergh's boat was assigned to carry the lieutenant who was to guide the entire invasion force ashore.

He has "no very exciting recollections" of the passage to the shore, towing a chain of small boats into which companies of Anzac infantry were crammed. Nor of the hours after. Which is surprising, as Sir Aubrey is, at the age of 91, the oldest surviving holder of a gallantry medal, the Distinguished Service Cross, won that dawn. All he cares to talk about is just a "bit of rifle fire: far worse than the shooting was the confusion".

The fleet was being led to the wrong bay, a mile too far north. Troops were being discharged at the foot of cliffs, instead of on a wide, flat area leading inland. "The boats were having difficulty in making their landing, so we went astern and pushed them into the beach. Seemed the right thing to do, but it helped to mix up and scatter the battalions, which also slowed the advance."

Only days later, when tales carried back by the wounded and messengers made clear the chaos in the sharp ridges behind Anzac Cove, did the Navy become aware of the debacle. "Then, and now, I cannot understand why we were not allowed to do the job for which we were best equipped," Sir Aubrey said. "The firepower on those battleships was quite literally terrifying. Given the order, we could have taken the tops off those hills, flattened all the defences. But the Navy was made to hold its fire."

"When we became aware of the consequences, it had an awful effect on many of us. I was so shattered that I refused to discuss the Dardanelles with anyone. Nor would I read a single word about the operations until asked to review a book written by another midshipman of that day... and that was 60 years later. I am too old now, but even if I was fully fit I wouldn't be going back."

Josie MacDonald, Mr Bull's daughter, said: "When we were children and the subject of Gallipoli came up we were always giggling... 'There goes Dad, winning the war again'. I wish we had listened to him more. It is only now that people have encouraged them to talk that we realise what he, and men like him, did. I am glad to be going with him, to try to understand."

"For years, people wanted to hear what happened there, but I couldn't speak of it. It was all too vivid. I would get the quivers..."

day this Scottish regiment passed through our lines; big, strapping chaps, fine-looking soldiers. But their attack failed, the Turks threw them back, and all day we had to stay crouched over while tramping on their bodies in our trenches. Had no choice - to stand up was to get your head shot off - and there was no burying them until dark.

"I got shot: bullet hit my rifle, then into the arm. They patched it up, then back to my firing position."

Mr Keer had clear recall of the evacuation: "We were getting ready for weeks... simply not firing at the Turks for hours, even when they crept right up to our wire, just to get them used to those silent spasms. Night after night they thinned us out. On the last night they left just 300 of us."

Mr Keer had clear recall of the evacuation: "We were getting ready for weeks... simply not firing at the Turks for hours, even when they crept right up to our wire, just to get them used to those silent spasms. Night after night they thinned us out. On the last night they left just 300 of us."

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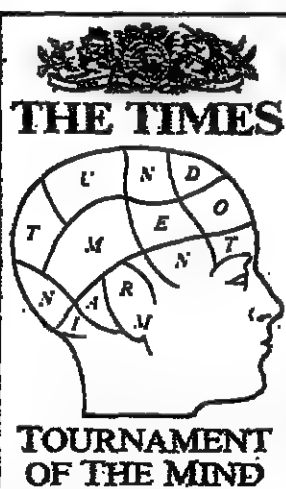
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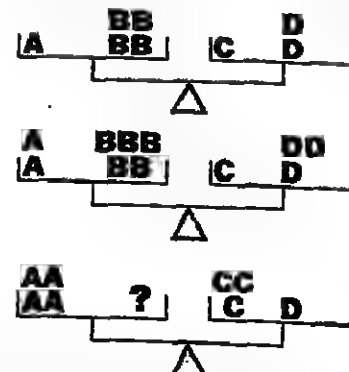


## Tournament of the Mind

- Tournament of the Mind reaches Round 18 today, with only two more rounds remaining in the competition. A postal address for all entries will be given with Round 20.
- Thousands of readers are playing for £5,000 or, for the school teams, a Hewlett Packard computer. But no one who enters the Tournament will leave empty-handed. All entrants will receive a certificate. Those who score above a certain level will get personalized certificates in bronze, silver and gold.

### 1. DIAGRAMS

All three sets of scales in this diagram are in perfect balance. Each letter represents a whole item weighing 20g or less. What is the maximum number of whole Bs needed to replace the question mark and balance the third scale?



### 2. VERBAL

Use the letters of the word PALIMPSEST to find three words which will provide answers to the following three clues:

1. To draw using dots (seven-letters).
2. An anise-flavoured alcoholic drink (six-letters).
3. Sacred songs (six-letters).

### 3. LOGIC

A farmer sold 1,000 eggs, of which one-tenth were duck eggs. Duck eggs cost 90p, four times as much as hen eggs. How much money did the farmer earn?

### 4. MATHS

A herd of buffalo set off for a feeding ground. On the first day they covered one half of the total distance. On the second day they covered one quarter of the remaining distance. On the third day they covered one third of the remaining distance. Today is the fourth day. After completing one fifth of the remaining distance today, they were still 24 miles away from their destination. How many miles has the herd covered?

### MISCELLANY

In which years did Red Rum win the Grand National?



### ROUND 18 - ANSWERS

Cut out this coupon and keep your answers until Round 20. Answers will be accepted only on coupons published in *The Times*

#### PUZZLES

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#### MISCELLANY

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_



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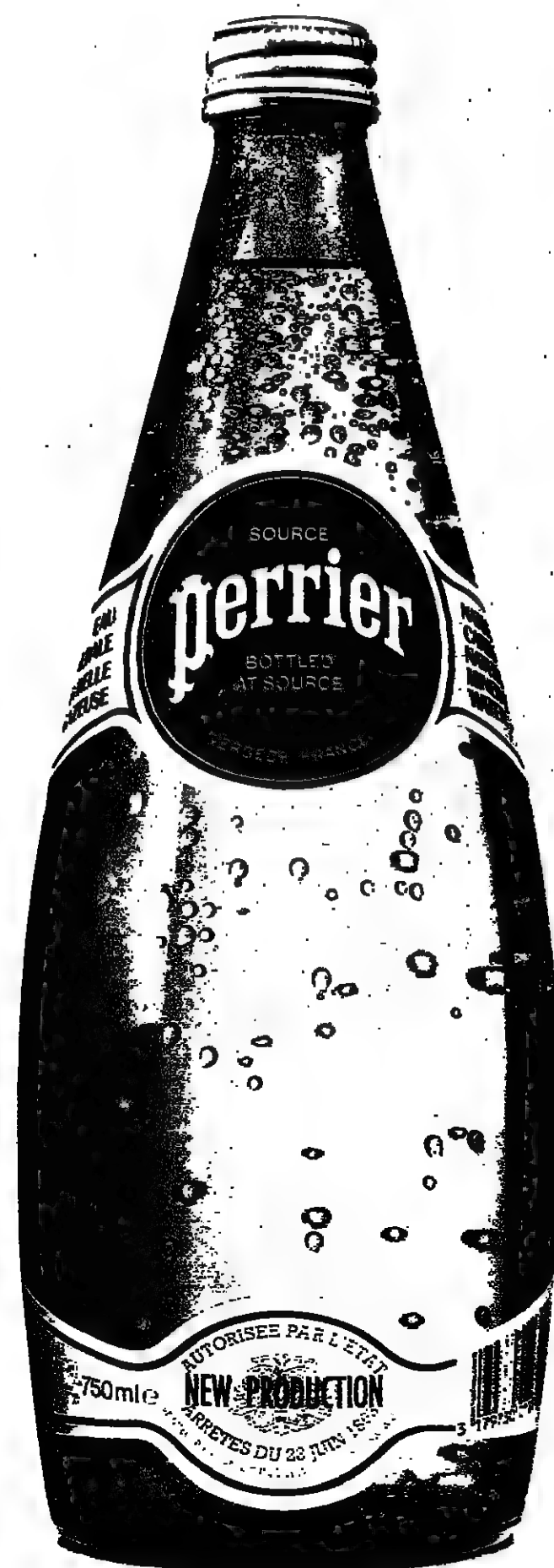
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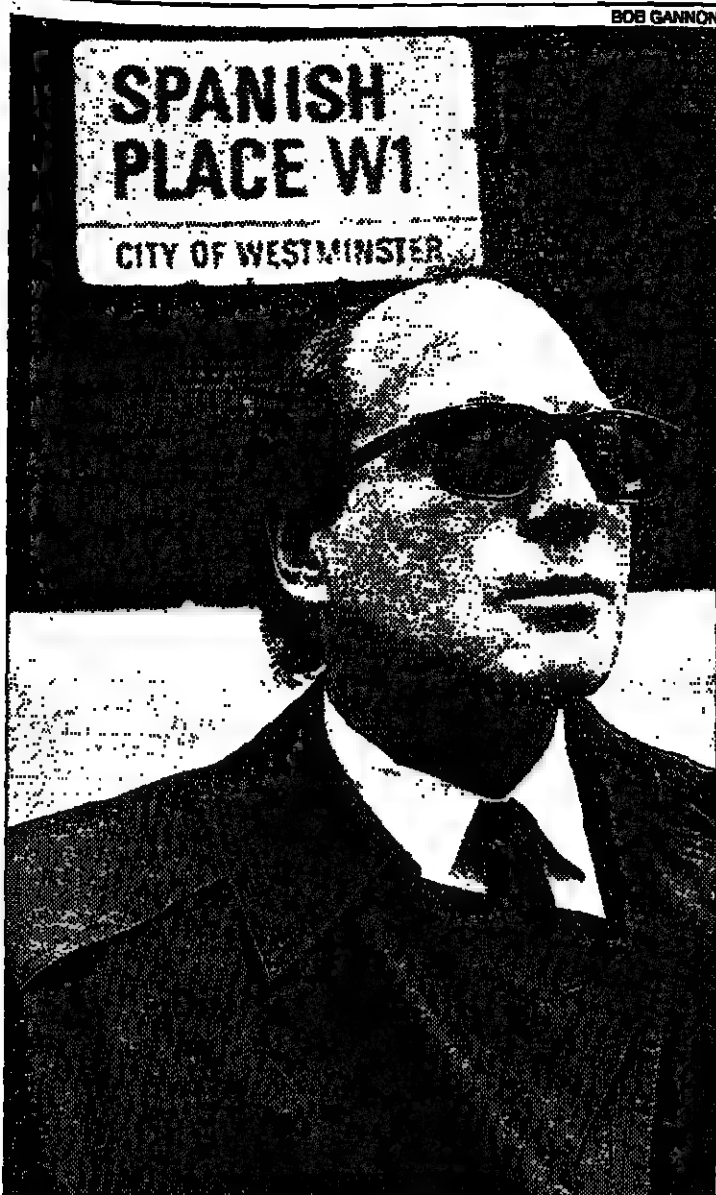








## THE ARTS

Clive Davis meets US novelist Oscar Hijuelos, riding the promotional roller-coaster with *The Mambo Kings Play Songs Of Love*

Raffish low-lifer? Oscar Hijuelos photographed in London last week

## Resisting the Latin tag

First the novel, then the compact disc, followed by the video and, soon, "the major motion picture". *The Mambo Kings Play Songs Of Love*, last autumn's big hit in literary New York, is becoming that dread phenomenon, a multi-media event.

Published in Britain this week, Oscar Hijuelos's tale of Latin-American musicians of the Forties and Fifties is being given the hardest of hard sells. At the same time that it arrives in the bookshops, a compilation of vintage Latin songs will be issued under the same title on Charly Records' Caliente label. The promotional campaign also includes a video of "soundies" — the cinema versions of today's pop videos — not forgetting the promise of a Universal Pictures film. The soundtrack is to be composed by that well-known Latin maestro, David Byrne of Talking Heads.

Hijuelos, a 38-year-old New Yorker of Cuban stock, views the process with detachment. After all, he only wrote the book; what happens next is the preserve of "the creative people". Apart from surviving the publicity round, he seems more concerned with how he is going to find the time to complete his next novel.

In *The Mambo Kings* he charts the career of the Castillo brothers, Nestor and Cesar, who travel to New York from Cuba to make their name as musicians. Riding on the mambo craze, their or-

chestra builds up a following in the dance-halls, with Cesar channeling his surplus energies into a succession of love affairs and one-night stands.

The biggest break of all comes in 1955 when the brother's compatriot, Desi Arnaz, Lucille Ball's husband, gives them a guest spot on the *I Love Lucy* show. It proves to be the highlight of the brothers' career. Without giving away too much of the plot, suffice it to say that most of the story is seen in flashbacks through the eyes of Cesar as an old man.

Hijuelos sketches in the background in documentary style. Real-life Latin musicians — Tito Puente, Machito and Ray Barretto — pass through, and scholarly footnotes provide extra sociological details. The author was once a musician, playing guitar and piano with local groups. "I am too young to remember much of the period when the mambo was at its peak, but one of my aunts was married to a handleader. They lived in Miami and whenever my parents shipped me off down there, I used to pick up tales about his past."

The photograph on the dust jacket conveys the image of a raffish low-lifer. But apart from his dabblings with music, Hijuelos has pursued a fairly conventional career, equipped with a Spanish-free accent and a master's degree in creative writing from New York's City University. He originally tried his hand at drama,

writing plays which never got beyond theatre workshops ("I was a lousy playwright") and then a novel or two that stayed in the drawer — though one, he says, attracted the interest of a lesbian publishing house in Brooklyn. He was working for an advertising agency when his acclaimed autobiographical novel, *Our House In The Last World*, was published in 1985.

In the US, *The Mambo Kings* has received generally enthusiastic reviews. But there have been stirrings amongst some Cuban-Americans, unhappy about the catalogue of sexual encounters. "Livid bones", "kingly sticks" and "big things" are wielded on page after page, while most of the women tend to be little more than, well, receptacles. Is Hijuelos guilty of exploiting the old stereotype of Latin womanizers?

"I have had calls from hand-leaders saying, 'You've got it right, Jack'. Most of the talk has been from people in Miami. They are not so much alarmed by any stereotypes, but because they feel it is almost too truthful. I think the book is full of affection for women, but I cannot impose modern values on a guy like Cesar. I mean, how do you write about cowboys — have them doing I-Ching by the camp-fire?"

He stresses that he is a writer first and foremost, more concerned with giving creative writing

lessons to students than churning out pulp fiction. "If I wanted to make a million bucks, I would change my name and write about Confederates or wild love affairs in Hollywood."

"This is not a million-dollar book. It paid my bills for a while, and it did well in hip places. As far as the rest of America is concerned, it did not go over, because to them Latinos are, you know, aliens." Yet a similar attitude can be found amongst the people who run the literary machine. When critics applaud Hijuelos for adding to "the canon of American ethnic literature", the praise comes with a hint of WASP condescension.

Hijuelos is proud to be "a home-grown Latin-American writer". But any well-meaning attempt to confine him to the margins arouses his suspicion. "I am always being asked to do readings by people who think it would be a wonderful idea to have me up there alongside black authors like Toni Morrison or John Edgar Wideman. They are wonderful writers, but it is really an unconscious statement: that minority writers are not really part of mainstream literature, that they will be respected as long as they stay in their niche. My aim is to try to break through all that."

● *The Mambo Kings Play Songs Of Love* is published on Thursday by Hamish Hamilton (£13.99). Oscar Hijuelos will be discussing his novel at the ICA on Thursday at 12.30pm.

## Cool and contrasted

## CONCERTS

Paul Griffiths

Nash Ensemble/Friend Wigmore Hall

Just two days after the London Sinfonietta had played Simon Holt's lucid and fantastical *Copriccio spiritale*, here were the Nash Ensemble with the first British performance of Holt's *Sparrow Night* for a rather similar ensemble, but in a more dramatic and fragmented vein. The title, owed to Chekhov by way of Raymond Carver, alludes to nocturnal experiences of terror which are negated by the calm appearance of the outside world, and the music not only depicts these unassuming extremes of panic and stillness in appropriate musical imagery but seems to make them simultaneous in many gestures.

The opening, of string harmonics in slow oscillations, provides an obvious example: an idea which is at rest but speaks unease. On the other hand, the solo oboe line, beautifully written for the always cool but engaged and eloquent Gareth Hulce, is generally wild and jagged in effect while also having a core of certainty and elegance: even the multiphonic effects are not just blasts of expressionism but musical ideas contained in the flow.

Other features of the score include a thundering piano solo and dense and disturbing, yet perfectly judged, chords for the full ensemble, often with the oboe exactly placed in low relief. Hulce gave an immaculate performance in a piece which is as packed with ideas and demands as any concerto; Lionel Friend secured vivid and imaginative support.

Otherwise this was a French evening, with Nash specialities (the Ravel Introduction and Allegro, Debussy's *Dances and Fables*) joined by a minor performance of Fauré's *G minor Piano Quartet*, the finale enlivened by Ian Brown's reminiscence of his strength in the Holt.

David Fallows

BBC PO/Bishop-Kovacevich RNCM, Manchester

Watch out for the broadcast of Friday night's BBC Philharmonic concert and make a point of listening to what Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich did with the slow movement of the "Eroica" Symphony. Here was playing of exceptional flexibility and power, guided by a musician who has an uncanny sense of how the details fit together in an extended Beethoven slow movement.

It is, in any case, always instructive to hear what happens when a wonderful instrumentalist takes to conducting at a fairly late stage. Such a large part of the conductor's art lies in simply galvanizing all the members of an orchestra to pull in the same direction that there are relatively few who manage to be entirely successful. Fine musicianship is necessary but not sufficient.

Certain moments of apparently like-judged musical space tended to sound flabby and uninviting for want of careful direction, whereas comparable passages often show the finest examples of Bishop-Kovacevich's careful articulation on the piano. Directing Mozart's C minor concerto from the keyboard, he often gave the musicians more help than they needed.

With an intelligent leader (Andrew Orton on this occasion) and a well co-ordinated woodwind section, it should have been possible to leave the orchestral players largely to their own devices and force them to use their chamber-music instincts more fully. That seems to have happened in Mozart's day, and several original-instrument ensembles have shown how it can happen now. The best passages — which were very fine indeed — came in the sections where the pianist was fully occupied and the players just followed his lead.

## Reality, fantasy and irresistible tosh

At least you know where you are with Jeffrey Archer. Rule 14 of the manual for aspiring critics may tell you not to like him, but put old Ed Asner, Lou Grant himself, in the back of a stretch limousine, in a suit apparently left over from *The Bronx Zoo*, give him a cigar and some of the worst dialogue since Edgar Lustgarten stopped fronting black-and-white murder mysteries ("I don't take losers to breakfast") and we are safely hooked on *Not A Penny More, Not A Penny Less* (BBC 1).

Four fairly just men are trying to recoup a fortune out of which they have just been swindled by a bloke whose haircut seems to have been achieved by balancing several of Charlton Heston's old toupees precariously on top of each other. Somewhere in there, too, is an Oxford professor and amateur magician, having it off with Jenny Agutter ("Can I help it if I am turned on by a brilliant

## TELEVISION

Sheridan Morley

research fellow like you?"). The production, by Clive Donner, indicates that since making *Charlie Chan* and *the Dragon Queen* he has learnt a thing or two about humour, but not a lot.

Later on BBC 2, Screen Two's *Children Crossing* was a vastly more intellectual affair, but considerably less fun. Sasica Reeves, an actress destined for awards, played the wife of a faithless concert pianist whose two daughters were killed in a car crash. At this point the plot lost still more of its already tenuous grip on reality, since we were asked to believe that the police would not have told the father of his loss, thereby allowing his fantasising wife to pretend to him that they were still alive.

If you can imagine *Intermezzo* rewritten on a bleak morning by Harold Pinter, you will have some idea of Trevor Preston's screenplay. It was taken from Verity Bargate's novel (originally intended for the cinema until the money ran out), and relied a lot on middle-class Angst and three wonderful central performances from Reeves, Bob Peck as her dour doctor lover, and Peter Firth as the philandering pianist.

But the problem, as so often in this Screen Two series, was that we had more menace than matter. There is a limit to the number of times viewers can be asked to guess whether they are watching reality, dreams or nightmares before they stop caring. Generally, at the BBC drama department, production values are now too often being expected to take the place of plot — though not, apparently, in the case of Jeffrey Archer adaptations.

## No stinting from a generous host

At Wembley Arena last year, Luther Vandross appeared in the round in more senses than one. If this year's model has lost weight, vocally he seems to have put on a few pounds. For the first of five shows, he sounded heavier, gruffer and less agile.

This was only relatively bad news, as even on a rare off-night Vandross's voice has no rival for technique and texture. Though he lacks the perspiring passion of a true soul singer, he is plainly more than a mere pop singer. Like an operatic tenor, he has matured with age, so that nowadays he can effortlessly command a vast and joyless auditorium such as this.

There is a theory that Vandross sings best when he is balladizing. He clearly thinks so himself, as on stage he tends to milk the love songs dry, as on this occasion he did with "Here and Now" and

then "A House Is Not A Home". But Vandross's anthem will always be the locomotive funk number from his first album, "Never Too Much", with which he usually opens. This time he ended with it instead, opting to put greater faith in some of the more recent up-tempo material from his two biggest-selling albums, *The Night I Fell In Love* and *Give Me The Reason*, and performing the 10-year-old "Sugar and Spice" live for the first time.

Vandross's strength as a concert performer is that, with his musical director Nat Adderley, jun., he is able to reinvent his material for the stage. With a quintet of backing singers (two on stools, three gyrating through high-camp dance routines), Vandross develops goodish songs like "Til My Baby Comes Home" and "Creepin'" into showstoppers.

But the biggest showstopper, as always, was Vandross's spangled wardrobe. When he made his customary costume change from very outrageous jacket to very, very outrageous jacket midway through the show, it served as a confirmation that this is a man who never does things by halves when he can do them twice over. Generous to himself, generous to his band, whose CVs he exhaustively plugged, he is above all generous to his audience. Even with the voice not quite on song, he lavishly entertained them with lashings of Luther.

## Love, pain and transformation

Impregnable complacent zealot: Barry Foster as Deputy Governor Danforth in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*

## THEATRE

Jeremy Kingston

The Crucible Royal Exchange, Manchester

With this powerful production, grippingly acted on the seven-sided open stage, so that to look down on it from the upper levels is like peering into a giant's crucible, Gregory Hersov completes the "bat trick" of Arthur Miller's early plays. I missed his *Death of a Salesman* four years ago, but his *All My Sons* remains vivid in my memory and I do not doubt that the impression of his latest production will last as long.

In 1953, when the play was written, the show trials in communist Europe were accusing their victims of complicity with the evils of capitalism, while in Washington the Un-American Activities Committee, McCarthy's legacy, was poisoning the United States with the fears of Reds in their midst. But no one in 1953 watching this account of the witch mania in theocratic Salem, Massachusetts, 300 years earlier, can have suspected that another theocracy would arise to terrorize not a nation but half the world.

Miller strips the masks off the Salem accusers, revealing motives of greed, spite and the calculations of frightened or vengeful girls. The

careful consequences are engrossing but the intervening years have tilted the interest towards the motives of the men who passed the judgement.

Miller was not greatly concerned with what spurred on these judges, represented here by Deputy Governor Danforth, whom Barry Foster correctly plays as an impregnable complacent zealot. But, in this modern age of death-dealing ayatollahs, the shallower focus on this character has become something of a gap in the play.

No such reservations attach to the other characters. David Allister's Hale, the devil-hunting cleric, begins as sure of himself as a Norman Tebbit, whose face his own somewhat resembles, and ends desolate in grief.

The subtlest development is in the character of Proctor, out-

wardly the strong, hardworking farmer but deeply perturbed by his liaison with Abigail (Rosahind Bennett), most vengeful of the girls. David Schofield marks the steps of his terrified descent through the glances he gives his wife (Eleanor David); at first uneasy, then heart-broken as the net closes round her until finally, having torn up his false confession — a scene he plays magnificently — he can face her and kiss her as an honest man. As well as everything else, the play is a love story.

Hersov sets it on a raft of planks above a lake of fitfully glowing lava — a daringly literal metaphor both for the Hell these characters believe in, and for the crucible that has burned away Proctor's frailty. For as well as a love story it is a proud account of human transformation, and Hersov and his company serve their author's vision proudly.

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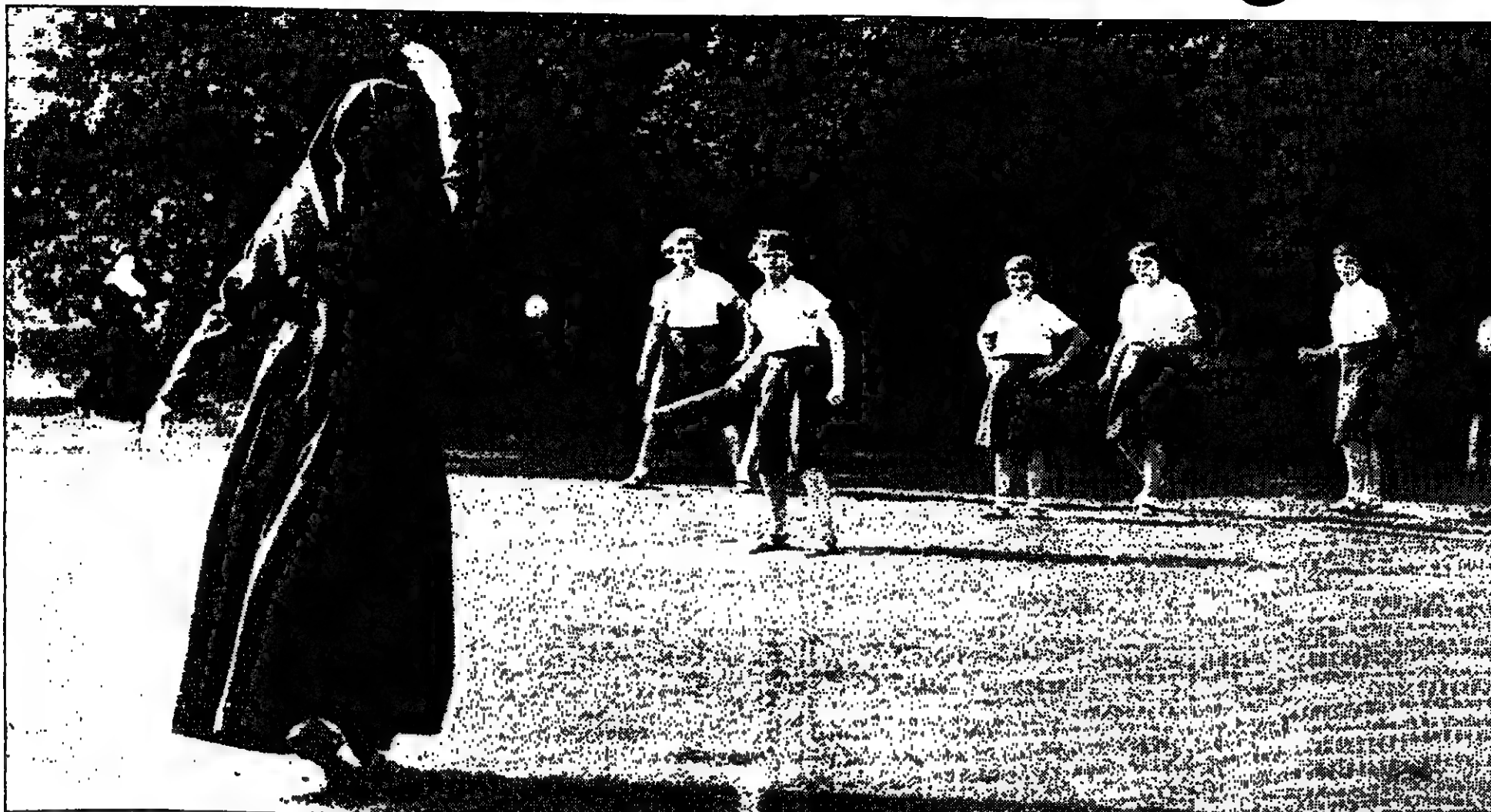
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## MONDAY PAGE

## Last innings for convent girls? Counting the cost of going back to work



Vision of a fading age: since 1960, when this photograph was taken, the number of independent Catholic schools has dropped from 683 to 228, and the number of pupils from 82,929 to 66,028

**'I value the tremendous interest the nuns took in us. It was almost as though we were substitute children'**

The old girls of the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Hove, Sussex, (motto: "Loyal and true") had mixed feelings about the first reunion to be held at their old school. The opportunity to trade nostalgia with old friends, rivals, tutors and mentors was tinged with sentiment over what had become of the convent itself.

For the purpose-built convent, constructed in 1877 by the French enclosed order of the Sacred Heart nuns, has become one of Britain's biggest Catholic comprehensive schools. The once neatly laid out dormitories, where girls hung their black chapel veils over cubicle curtains to indicate their intention to attend weekday Mass rather than spend an extra half-hour in bed, are now rambling classrooms.

The corridors which enclosed fewer than 300 "very over-protected innocent young schoolgirls", according to Dr Patsy Ridgway, the organizer of last week's reunion, now resound to the thunder of more than 1,500 local boys and girls. The demise of the institution as a Sacred Heart convent in 1966 — it went on to become, first, a boys' school and then a comprehensive — is, however, typical of a general move away from convent education. While the demand still exists, the convent schools do not. As a result of the decision by the Second Vatican Council, during the 1960s, to bring the Roman Catholic

Church into the modern world, today's convent schools are, for the most part, run by lay managers or independent school trusts, with the majority of teachers secular and — frequently — not even Catholic. Since 1960, the number of independent Catholic schools has dropped from 683 to 228, and the number of pupils from 82,929 to 66,028.

The effect of "Vatican Two" was to encourage the diminishing communities of nuns to serve society in less elitist ways than educating the children of the privileged. And the nuns themselves — many of them unqualified teachers — recognized that they were not always the best purveyors of an earthly education, even though certain convents boasted a high academic reputation. "We became far more aware that major positions, like headships, needed to have training and experience," says Sister Elizabeth Smith, aged 57, a former teacher. "You couldn't just put a nun in and hope that, by the grace of God, she would do a good job."

Indeed, apart from the close-knit family feeling, it is a lack of academic expertise which is remembered by many of the 300 Sacred Heart old girls who attended the reunion.

"The reason I left [the convent] was that I wanted to be a doctor, and at that time the convent couldn't provide the academic standard expected of someone thinking of doing more than being a sec-

**Sally Brompton reports on the legacy — for both good and bad — passed on to the recipients of a unique way of learning**

retary," says Dr Ridgway, aged 43, who went on to grammar school from the convent's Upper Fifth.

"You had the impression that you did your O levels, became a nurse or secretary, got married and had lots of children to send to the Sacred Heart," says Dr Sally O'Brien, aged 40, who also feels that the convent was academically lacking. "I think quite a lot of us suffered from the feeling that we were not qualified to go out and earn our own living. The thing I value, perhaps more than anything, is the tremendous interest the nuns took in us. It was almost as though we were substitute children, their bit towards the future." Clarissa Dickson Wright, aged 42, remembers being encouraged in her ambition to become a barrister despite being "one of the school's menaces", once smuggling three live chickens into the dormitory. She also values the way that religion was taught at the convent. "I've met

Catholics who talk about fear and thunder and guilt, but I never lost touch with something up there."

Another former pupil, Polly Adams, aged 49, feels that she had plenty of opportunity to practice acting, her own vocation. "We were frequently working on plays or putting on our own productions. Academically, I was terribly lazy and devoted, and could have got out of being educated at any school."

Sister Joan Faber, headmistress of the convent over its last six years, believes that her pupils had a "good education and got something enormously important from us". Sister Faber, who now works as a psychotherapist and directs a project to help rape victims in London's East End, says: "When I was teaching I was totally satisfied, but what we are doing now is equally right. Who is to say that this sort of work, reaching out to these damaged girls, isn't a form of education?"

While many Catholic nuns have extended their roles to encompass the world beyond their previously enclosed communities, the convents themselves have also changed. Acknowledging the existence of "a whole body of people who think convent schools are out of date and would no more opt for one than try to fly", Sister Smith points to the increasing number of non-Catholic parents who choose a convent education for their children, including "a number of better-off ethnic minorities. Some

Catholic schools have large numbers of Muslim girls as pupils."

Not everyone approves of the more secular approach of the convents today. "I think they've lost something," Sister O'Leary says, recalling her own convent education. "There was a whole group of women teaching us who were immensely cultured, and there was a certain leanness and breadth about the education."

Sister O'Leary, who became known by her pupils as the "ton-up nun" when she began riding a moped in the early 1970s, a helmet rammed down over her veil, once organized a midnight feast for her better-behaved pupils who did not frequent the out-of-bounds Wimpy bars of Brighton. "I know that convent girls are reputed to be the easiest to seduce," Sister O'Leary says, "and no doubt there are a few flighty young people who do kick over the traces. But that doesn't take into account the large number of girls who aren't like that."

Dr O'Brien, who still keeps in touch with several of her former teachers, recognizes that while there was a limit to the amount of worldly advice the nuns were able to pass on, "within those limitations they gave a lot more than the average school teacher". She recalls one nun's earnest words of caution to girls visiting London: "If a man approaches you in the wrong way, you know where to kick him."

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**Despite the Chancellor's childcare concessions, combining motherhood and a career can still be expensive**

When Karen Munoz returned to paid employment three years ago she earned £7,500 a year and gave a nanny £80 a week to look after her children. She calculates that, with all her other expenses, it cost her money just to re-establish a foothold in the job market.

Now Mrs Munoz, aged 31, is a regional manager for Universal Office Supplies. She has an income of £25,000 and a company car, but remains convinced that going out to work is an expensive business. "It's not just childcare," she says. "There are all kinds of hidden costs which tend to be underestimated, like buying Christmas presents for colleagues." As an unsupported divorcee with a daughter, aged seven, and a son aged five, Mrs Munoz feels she has no alternative to work.

Other women, however, with less stark choices, should perhaps keep the calculator handy while listening to the current back-to-work blandishments. Ruth Michaels, senior tutor in contin-

Ms Todd, who runs her own public relations company in Fareham, Hampshire, frequently entertains at home. She has just spent £6,000 on a four-oven Aga, "so that I can cook for large numbers. Often, though, I don't have time, so I call in caterers — and that's maybe £20 a head."

This classic time/money conflict also applies on a domestic level. "My husband and I like cooking, but if you get in late you often can't face the idea so you go out."

Ms Todd is also chairman of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight branch of the Institute of Directors. Her wardrobe must therefore include outfits for evening functions as well as day-wear. "I do have a frugal streak, though," she says. "I buy my tights in bulk."

She pays about £20 a week for a cleaner. "If you go out to work you need your home to run efficiently. Even though men may be more enlightened if there's nothing in the fridge or no ironed shirt it's still the woman they turn to."

Women who work from home would appear to have the best of both worlds. Helene Hook, aged 40, is one of 350 ICL employees, mainly women, who work from home using technology installed by the company. As marketing manager of a software service she makes £20,000 a year for a 25-hour week. She pays her nanny £40 a day, three times a week, to care for her two pre-school children, and a cleaner £12 for three hours of housework and ironing. "The big benefits are intangible," she says, "like having more time with the children and feeling more in control of my own destiny."

"I do go out to see clients so I have one or two smart outfits, otherwise I'm in tracksuit and trainers."

A third alternative is to work for a company which offers perks. Susan Hanington, 42, earns £21,000 as an employment adviser for Sun Life of Canada, the insurance company, but says that the cash value of all her benefits amounts to £7,000 a year. These include free car parking or interest-free loans for rail season tickets, and a mortgage subsidy.

Staff can work flexitime and, although Mrs Hanington has no children herself such arrangements, she says, are a boon to working mothers. Lunch in the restaurant at the company's headquarters in Basingstoke, Hampshire is free and, she says, excellent. "I obviously have to buy some clothes for work, but I think my biggest expense is coffee, at 6p a cup. These benefits aren't the reason I joined but they're one of the reasons I've stayed for 14 years."

Liz Gill

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Sue Todd: little time to cook her nanny £40 a day, three times a week, to care for her two pre-school children, and a cleaner £12 for three hours of housework and ironing. "The big benefits are intangible," she says, "like having more time with the children and feeling more in control of my own destiny."

## Two rites of spring

Spring is here: daffodils bloom, lambs gambol, carpets are beaten and the Chancellor feeds ducks in the park. And, at midday last Wednesday, a procession of white-robed Druids filed up Tower Hill in the City of London. There, in solemn ceremony, they celebrated the passing of the spring equinox, when day and night are of equal length, and the sun rises in power over the moon.

This Friday, on the other hand, the Wombles, Gloria Hunniford, Derek Jameson and the Tidy Britain Group will lead the public into "Womble-friendly zones" more commonly known as BP garages, Kentucky Fried Chicken stores and Selfridges, Oxford Street. There, the public will be encouraged to purchase for £1 — the price of a few pints of petrol or half-a-dozen fries, a chicken leg and a cardboard box but no ketchup — one biodegradable plastic bag, one glove and one large, brown, plastic, bespectacled Womble nose. And then National Spring Cleaning Day will commence.

The two ways of celebrating spring could not be more different. The Druids, the priests of Celtic Britain and Gaul, were first written of in 200 BC. By the year AD 2 Caesar had forced them out of Gaul, whence they fled to Wales and Ireland, and it was not until the 17th century that Druid orders really flourished once more. Other than vague facts about oaks and mistletoe, about sacred rings of stones and the celebration of the sun, relatively little is known about them. Rituals are passed down orally, in time-honoured fashion. Celebrations involved with the Druids through the ages — such as William Blake, Win-

**Wombles and Druids do not have much in common. But their hearts are in the same place on the environment**

ston Churchill and, it has been rumoured, a member of the cast of *Coronation Street* — have maintained an almost Masonic degree of silence on the subject of their connections. Celebrations involved with the Tidy Britain campaign are less reticent.

The campaigners for a "Clean (not 'Naughty') Nineties" could not be more modern. Repackaged by Mrs Thatcher in March 1988, the campaign thrives on photo opportunities and media coverage, on celebrity appearances and public relations.

Two years ago Richard Branson was improving both the litter habits of the young and his own caring image, now it is the turn of big business and the Wombles. For 17 years after their creation, the inhabitants of Wimbledon Common are back, wombles free and making good use of the things that they find, things that the everyday folks leave behind.

As time has passed these fictional creatures have metamorphosed into singing, dancing, "live" celebrities, encountered "overground" all over the country. Druids, for their part, have become more familiar as cartoon characters, like the magic potion-brewing Gerafix created by Goscinny and Uderzo in *Asterix the*

Gaul. Real Druids are to be seen in public only at Tower Hill, at Stonehenge, on Salisbury Plain, for the summer solstice, and on the ancient barrow of Primrose Hill, north London, for the autumn equinox.

"People think Druids are a bit cranky," said Julie Gaving, press officer for the Tidy Britain Group, "but people think we're cranky, too."

And there are other similarities. Both groups follow a philosophy that demands change, both in their own lives and the world around them. On the publicity front, the Druids of 1990 welcomed spectators at the Tower Hill ceremony and even promoted it through the London Tourist Board.

"At the equinox seeds are sown and the rising sun activates the seeds," said a Druid spokeswoman enigmatically. "If you do not choose new seeds, which represent new plans of action, the sun will activate old seeds, your past habits."

Miss Gaving expressed the same sentiment in a different way: "It's all about blowing off the dust of winter, throwing out the old and bringing in the new."

Druids have been sowing seeds on the concrete by the Tower since 1952. "Some may find a crack, grow and literally break up the concrete," said the spokeswoman. "Symbolically our actions may break up the concrete that is modern man's mind."

"It's time for us to stop abusing the environment," Miss Gaving said. "Druids are at one with the environment, and so are we. National Spring Cleaning Day is a Druid ritual for today."

Nicola Murphy

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## TOMORROW

**Liz Smith on how tropical prints are putting fashion followers in a mood for beachcombing**

## Pick of the Week



**CHRISTIE'S**

**T**HIS CHARMING INTERIOR is typical of the quiet, atmospheric pictures by the Danish artist Carl Holsoe (1863-1935). Like his contemporaries Hammershoi and Ibsen, Holsoe looks back to Vermeer and the Dutch masters in his choice of subject and use of light to create mood. This picture is included in the sale of Scandinavian Paintings, Drawings, Prints and Sculpture at Christie's, King Street on Thursday, 29 March at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. The sale includes over 300 works covering the breadth of Danish, Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish art, and includes important works by Hammershoi, Jensen, Larsson, Liljefors, Strindberg, Zorn, Monsted and Schjerfbeck.

For further information on this and any other sales in the next week, please telephone Christie's 24-hour Auction Information Service on (01) 839 9060.

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## EDUCATIONAL

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## EDUCATION

Edited by David Tytler

## A lesson for the Americans



Sampling the British style of schooling: Mrs Zaida Arson-Crichlow, a primary school headmistress from Rochester, New York, joins pupils at the Westborough High School in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire

Three years ago, the former Education Secretary, Kenneth Baker, returned from the Bronx declaring that Britain's inner-city schools could learn a few things from their American counterparts. Today, that process has been thrown into reverse.

By a twist of fate, the highly formal American education system is about to take lessons in informality from the very system that Mr Baker was so keen to shake up with his Education Reform Act.

The message being taken back to the United States this week by a team of 30 American teachers and educationalists, which has spent 18 days touring schools in England, is that "talk and chalk" are simply not enough.

The party, which saw schools in nine cities from London to Newcastle upon Tyne, came away impressed with the flexibility of teaching styles in Britain compared with the rigidity of methods used at home.

As Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools noted in a special report on a visit by 52 British educationists to New York in 1988, classroom techniques in the US are formal indeed. The inspectors did not mince their words in condemning many of the lessons they saw as "unimaginative" and the amount of actual work done by students as "small".

The Americans, who are preparing their own report on their visit

to Britain, intend to be less harsh. It was clear, from talking to them at the end of their study tour, that many were impressed with what they had seen. As outsiders they were able to cut through the miasma of jargon that surrounds so much of British education.

Anyone listening to the pronouncements of the English educational theorists could be forgiven for getting the impression that the teaching profession was riven by schisms over how and what to teach. Unhindered by preconceptions about "child-centred education", "discovery learning" or "the teacher as facilitator", the Americans were able to see what

**'The advantages in terms of the amount of work done and the attention paid by students were clear'**

the experts have bamboozled many Britons into ignoring.

Far from slavishly following the latest educational fad and fashion, teachers in Britain's school use a wide range of teaching styles, mixing the formal and the informal to meet the needs of pupils.

It was this flexibility that particularly impressed Gene Maeroff, Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, the closest American

**It used to be thought that British schools could learn from their American colleagues, but that view is fading, Douglas Broom reports**

equivalent to the inspectorate, who will write the American report.

"In our schools, teaching tends to be very formal," he says. "The teacher standing in front of a class and lecturing at them is the most common mode of instruction in schools throughout the country for students of all ages."

"That seems to be less common over here and the advantages in terms of the amount of work done and the attention paid by students were clear to us."

The traditional "talk and chalk" approach persists because "Americans have confidence in it. Parents associate that technique with rigour, although I believe that is open to question."

The contrast between the two systems could not be greater. While teachers in the US have held to the traditional way, their counterparts in England have been

bombarded by initiatives and fashionable educational theories. Mr Maeroff says there have been "pockets of experimentation" in the US, but the system has remained broadly unchanged for decades. This is partly because,

unlike Britain, the US has no central authority for education. The American Education Secretary has none of the powers of his Whitehall counterpart to make or enforce national policy.

An American equivalent of the Education Reform Act would have been a breach of the constitution. Control of schools rests with the states and the 16,000 local district school boards, which actually run local schools. Under no obligation to heed the promptings of the federal government, they zealously guard their independence within their own states.

This fiercely local system has also resisted the kind of swings of fashion that have characterized British education in the past three decades. The influence of academic educationists has been far less marked.

But although this had brought a degree of continuity and stability that many British teachers would envy, interest is now stirring in ways of making education more attractive to pupils and improving their levels of achievement.

Mr Maeroff says: "Our system is based on students serving their

time. A student will get a high school diploma just by turning up." In the inner cities particularly, there is concern that pupils need to be motivated and involved in their own education. Too many see no connection between school and their futures.

The Americans are not about to adopt English theories wholesale. But the visitors are going back, determined to encourage some of the flexibility of the British classroom into their own.

"There are clearly parallels between the kinds of problems that schools in cities in our two countries have to face," Mr Maeroff says.

**'There are clearly parallels between the problems schools in cities in our two countries face'**

"I think we would accept that in some respects, particularly the drug culture, the problems are more severe in the US. In some city schools in the US, you will find the same kind of deterioration of equipment that airports use to find concealed weapons. They are there to disarm students. Most schools in New York City have security staff. I do not think you have anything like that here."

Among the ideas that attracted

favourable comment from the Americans were less formal lessons, which encouraged pupils to find out things for themselves and take a greater part in their own learning.

They also commended school uniforms as a way of overcoming extreme clothes consciousness, which has resulted in some American teenagers being killed for refusing to hand over their fashionably embroidered jackets to muggers.

Although the Americans are proud of their "open access" policy to higher education, which virtually guarantees a place to everyone who applies, the drop-out rate is horrifying.

The answer, Mr Maeroff believes, may lie in earlier specialization, along the lines that characterize the British system with GCSE and A level in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and O Grade and Highers in Scotland. Mr Maeroff adds: "Breadth in our country is often done at the expense of depth. You get a broad education that is only half an inch deep."

Whether or not Mr Maeroff's report brings about that greater depth of study in classrooms in the United States, the Americans have clearly been given food for thought by their English hosts.

In any case, the willingness of American schools to adopt British approaches to teaching will be less important than the opening of a new transatlantic dialogue.

## Labour relief

**The death of ILEA will be welcomed in surprising quarters**

A few surreptitious sighs of relief will be heard at Walworth Road a week from today when a grateful Labour Party sees a huge source of political embarrassment consigned by an obliging government to the dustbin of educational history.

Many teachers, and a few heads, will have a new spring in their step; no longer will they be obliged to pick their way so carefully through the minefield of doctrinal prejudice, while peering anxiously over their shoulders for the pursuing thought police.

ILEA is dead. Education in London can breathe again. Bliss is it in this dawn to be alive, even if youth is no longer on my side.

The public pretence will be different, of course. Muted ritual cries of outrage will echo perfunctorily around the land as the last rites are intoned. Decency demands it, as does the possibility of momentary political advantage.

However, few people will mean it: the disgruntled rump on the Labour benches, perhaps, who had hoped to use County Hall as a springboard for wider and grander political ambitions, and a few honest hard-working souls who will be looking for new jobs.

These include ILEA's ultimate education officer, David Mallen, who stuck loyally and efficiently to his task right to the end, for the sake of the schools and those in them. They certainly will not mean it at Walworth Road.

Nobody concerned to preserve freedom of expression and independence of action can regret the passing of the nearest thing we



have had to municipal Causation. Under the leadership of Sir Ashley Bramall, ILEA was often wrong but relatively tolerant of dissenting opinions. Sir Ashley was prepared to engage in public debate with those of us who thought his policies misguided. After he emerged from the leadership contest in 1981 with nothing to show for it but the knives stuck in his back, the empire scenario changed.

In place of public debate, dissenters received warning letters and administrative telephone calls from County Hall officials, who had been instructed to remind us of our contractual obligation to shut up and do as we were told.

However damaging to the interests and welfare of all our pupils some of us may have felt ILEA's new-found obsessions with race, sex and class to be, compliance with their instructions was demanded. And it was not simply a compliance but a silent, supine acquiescence.

A few of us did not manage it, and ILEA lost a lot of good heads and teachers, as well as some of its more independently minded inspectors. Among them were many of its most loyal and effective former supporters, including a number who were still members of the Labour Party.

Sadly, too many of their replacements appeared to have been appointed for their willingness to conform ideologically — or their ability to dissemble at interview — rather than for their independence of spirit and commitment to sound educational principles.

Some administrators, heads and schools will now have to exchange their ideological armour for thermal underwear, better suited to keeping out the chill winds of parental preference. The latter at least allows greater flexibility of response to the real educational issues of the decade — how to raise standards and provide a variety of responses to differentiated needs — as opposed to the rigid postures imposed by the private doctrinal obsessions of the callow commissars.

Teaching in London is not about to become an educational paradise. Some of the inherited problems will remain. But the possibility now presents itself of schools being enabled to attend to the real issues of educational standards, discipline and the prudent and creative use of resources unencumbered by an ideological straitjacket that demanded almost exclusive dedication to social and political objectives rather than to the issues that concern all parents and most teachers.

Boroughs such as Wandsworth look set fair to transform the scene. Others still have some way to go before they expiate the sins of their fathers, but even the worst will find it difficult to equal the notoriety of the ILEA. And if they succeed, it will at least be on a smaller scale.

**Lawrence Norcross**  
The author is the former head of an inner London comprehensive.

## How school briefed me for a career in law

Problems of reform, staff shortages and pay are mainly what make teaching seem unattractive as a career. Yet the essence of teaching is the classroom work, and this is what students considering a teaching career need to weigh up.

Even independent schools are now worried about the shortage of quality entrants to the profession. Last autumn they ran a scheme whereby students could spend several weeks at a school observing and teaching, believing that this would improve the profession's reputation. As an undergraduate considering teaching, I spent two weeks at a senior boys' boarding school.

To be presented with even a dozen 11-year-olds to teach is a daunting prospect for someone who has never taught.

My views — fears — on what teaching would be like were based on what I had heard of the worst of the comprehensive system. I was therefore amazed at the high standards of interest, motivation and obedience of the classes.

The rewards of teaching — available with every 40-minute lesson — soon became apparent. Once the pupils' interests had been won, there is a great feeling of success in having communicated information and seen them absorb it. As the boys developed their understanding, they spontaneously brought in new ideas, and asked questions.

They were not always right — or

**Students will be paid £100 a week for up to four weeks in a work experience scheme to coax them into teaching.**

**BENJAMIN FULLER, a politics and history student at Durham University, took part in a pilot scheme last September when he spent two weeks teaching at the independent Durham School**

even relevant — but this was far removed from the sullen silence I had feared.

The buzz to be felt at the end of a successful lesson, where interest and motivation had been maintained, was real.

Furthermore, the work was entirely mine. Every short lesson can stand as a project, and potential success, in itself.

However, if every lesson is an opportunity for success, it is as much a possible disaster; every child is capable of having problems or making trouble. As one new to teaching, I was constantly unsure as to how much knowledge and mental ability I could expect of the boys.

To some potential teachers — whose own education has been a constant development of ideas and ability — going into reverse and repeatedly simplifying material is frustrating. Anyone teach-

ing for the love of a subject must especially find this a struggle — this teacher must also want to evangelize about the subject. After three years of degree studies, the factual nature even of A level is easily forgotten. The challenge of teaching is not in the material, but in its communication.

Even when the level of the material has been decided the teacher has to struggle to maintain interest — without losing sight of the topic that is being put across. Again, communication is crucial, ways of thinking and presenting points must be changed. Often the point has to be repeated, so the way it is put across a second time must be different.

Every lesson also brings the expected, irritating problems of working with children; the need to repeat simple instructions — not twice but many times — and to break up personal disputes.

Despite these potential problems, my experience of classroom teaching was almost entirely enjoyable. The importance of the teacher's work to the children and their future would be re-emphasized as they developed.

A teacher, in any type of school, works very much as an individual. Many appreciate the freedom they have within their own lessons — an independence not always available to new entrants to other careers. Teachers also have to provide most of their own back-up, however, doing all their own photocopying and secretarial



"I was amazed at the standards of interest, motivation and obedience of the classes" — Benjamin Fuller

work. In poorer schools, a lot of time has to go into preparing and printing worksheets because the textbooks are not available, repairing obsolete equipment... and otherwise saving money.

Working with poor resources might provide a challenge and stretch the imagination, but it stretches time and patience a great deal more.

Teaching as a long-term career has a bad press — low morale and slow pay and career progression are the usual images presented.

Unless graduates hold a B.Ed, they must complete a postgraduate teaching course before they can teach in the state sector. Although it is not essential to pass it before entering the independent sector, all the teachers with whom I discussed this on my placement considered it necessary — for the training it gave, and to help get a job.

Starting salaries, about £10,500 for a good graduate, might now be reasonable, but for most teachers pay rises slowly.

Spending two weeks actually in the classroom vastly improved my opinion of teaching. To me, there is no doubt that teaching — at least in a school such as the one I saw — would be personally rewarding and provide a good sense of school and staff community. Teaching is certainly socially worthwhile.

I was amazed at the good discipline and motivation of the children I taught. To some extent, I cannot quite believe this represents reality. If I also wanted to teach in state schools, the prevailing impression of badly behaved children and frustrated teachers would seem closer to the truth.

What stands out about talking to teachers, as opposed to other professionals, is their failure to recommend their job wholeheartedly. Many teachers enthused about the job, the pupils and their school.

The opposing view came from one staff-room moaner, who counted the number of times he still had to teach photosynthesis — only 18 more times, then I can retire".

In a career so concentrated on one task there must be a danger of becoming bored and unchallenged.

Teaching can be enjoyable and rewarding, but despite my positive experience, teaching as a career looks unattractive to me.

Even when the barrier of low pay has been both recognized and removed, potential teachers will still be here. Problems of lack of discipline and the low status of teachers, far less tangible than pay and therefore harder to deal with, will remain.

Parents, politicians, unions and teachers must unite and deal with them, to ensure that the appeal of teaching is really restored.

I have decided to become a lawyer.

Other, irrespective of the particular school he or she happened to attend, and that required us to be able, at times, to fund schools differently.

All our research convinces us that even the permissible transitional period, unless infinitely long, will not actually solve the inherent problem of a formula that requires schools to be allocated budgets calculated on the basis of average teacher costs yet leaves schools to pay the actual costs.

Sooner or later, we believe, most schools are likely to find themselves with staff they need but whom they are not able to afford.

We wished to ensure that every pupil had access to the same educational opportunities as any

## Extras should be added to the fees

## NOTICEBOARD

both at Repton and at Haileybury. I know of no HMC school which inflates its fees by up to 20 per cent for extras.

**From John Turnbull, County education officer, Hereford and Worcester, Castle Street, Worcester**

Douglas Broom's report (*The Times*, March 16) about the nine councils who are about "to defy the Government by implementing banned schemes for delegating control of school budgets to

governing bodies" made interesting reading, but that is not what this local education authority is doing.

Hereford and Worcester council does indeed intend to implement its own preparatory scheme of local management based on the best of a long-established practice of delegation to schools, and incorporating the core of the proposed LMS (local management

of schools) scheme, which the Secretary of State was not able to approve.

The preparatory scheme will begin on April 1 and will continue until the differences between ourselves and the Department of Education and Science can be resolved or until the Secretary of State directs the authority to do otherwise.

We proposed a system of for-

mula funding which protected schools against the arbitrary effects of a too rigid formula by permitting significant cost variations between comparable schools when those variations arose in areas of expenditure largely beyond the control of individual governing bodies — as in the case of nationally negotiated pay and conditions of service for teachers.

We wished to ensure that every pupil had access to the same educational opportunities as any

**From David Jewell, Chairman, The Headmasters' Conference, Haileybury College, Hertfordshire**

The headline and the first paragraph of the report, "Head confounds hidden charges at public schools" (*The Times*, March 21) were seriously misleading in tone. I "accused" my HMC colleagues of nothing, and never used the word. The figure of 20 per cent was not produced by me.

All I did was to commend the practice of gathering all compulsory extras on top of the fees quoted. I encouraged this practice,











## Major offers hope on loans

By Nicholas Wood  
Political Correspondent

Hard-pressed home-owners and businessmen were offered the prospect of some welcome relief yesterday by Mr John Major when he said he expected interest rates to be "materially lower" by the beginning of next year.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer also hinted that Britain could join the European Monetary System well before the next election by saying that domestic inflation need only "approximate" to that on the Continent.

In addition, Mr Major conceded it had been a "mistake" not to anticipate the outcry over Scottish poll tax rebates, but maintained that the Government's response put the matter to bed.

Mr Major's remarks were clearly intended as an antidote to the gloom that has descended on the Conservative Party in the wake of the humiliating defeat in the Mid Staffordshire by-election, but they run the risk of reviving City fears about his determination to defend sterling by raising interest rates still further. High mortgage rates helped to lose the Midlands seat.

Mr Major recalled his Budget forecast that inflation would be down to 3 per cent by the middle of next year.

"As we begin to get inflation down, it will be perfectly proper to see interest rates fall as well and I would expect that to happen too."

"I've made it perfectly clear that my expectation is that both inflation and interest rates will be materially lower at the beginning of next year, at the middle of next year, at the end of next year and in 1992."

Although Mr Major also emphasized his determination to take no risks with inflation, City experts found his remarks "significant and worrying" because of the implication that defending sterling might have to take second place to the need to engender a sense of prosperity in the run-up to the election.

Mr Roger Bootle, chief economist at Midland Montagu, said that the Chancellor might come to regret his statement on BBC Television's *On the Record*.

Speaking on the same programme, Mr Bootle said: "We all suspect that interest rates will be moving down at that time, but for a Chancellor, who is keen to defend sterling, making it clear he thinks they will be down by that time was dangerous."

Letters, page 13

## Flying through the air with the greatest of ease



Making a dramatic sweep over the Lincolnshire countryside, the Red Arrows aerobically display team practice a "diamond nine" formation. The team headed for Cyprus over the weekend for further intensive training.

## Backing for Thatcher

Continued from page 1  
Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and Mr Patten's predecessor.

He said on Radio Four's *The World this Weekend*: "Should a Government stop councils from this (overspending) or should the people who elect councils stop them? I think it should be the latter."

Some ministers are also fearful that widespread capping will force councils to make big spending cuts and so deepen the Government's political problems.

Mr Major yesterday acknowledged public concern about the community charge, confirmed that it needed re-assessment, but understandably drew back from accepting there would have to be extra money for local government — £4 billion according to one estimate.

"We are just embarking

upon a change in taxation policy for local authorities. The community charge has replaced rates. It would be very surprising, if you didn't look at how they're bedding down and where it caused particular difficulties," he said on BBC Television's *On the Record*.

One of Mr Heseltine's supporters spoke yesterday of his being the beneficiary of "spontaneous combustion" on the backbenches, dating from his speech on the economy a few days before the Budget when Tory MPs flocked into the chamber and gaining momentum from the catastrophe in Mid Staffordshire.

This critic of the Prime Minister also claimed that disenchanted with the Prime Minister is spreading to the centre right, the key group that will determine her fate.

He quoted approvingly one right-winger who said: "It would be better to have Thatcherism without Thatcher than no Thatcherism at all."

But those who believe that Mrs Thatcher can be pressured into standing down have to reckon with probably the toughest British leader in recent times.

In a *Sunday Telegraph* interview bristling with determination to surmount her present problems, she said: "Look, I am very fit, I have lots of stamina. I have firm, fundamental convictions. In this Government we know the way we are going."

"I think that has been enormously beneficial to Britain, even though it has caused problems from time to time, as will any and every positive policy."

"I wish to carry on because I wish to take things a stage further."

## IRA bomb wrecks police station

By Edward Gorman, Irish Affairs Correspondent

An IRA bomb devastated a police station at Ballymena in Co Antrim early yesterday, causing serious damage to homes surrounding it but no injuries.

In a statement claiming responsibility, the IRA said the bomb consisted of 1,000lb of explosives. It was packed into a hijacked Mercedes van abandoned outside the police station just after 10pm.

Following a warning call, police evacuated the station and about 100 homes near by. Army bomb disposal experts were present when the bomb exploded at about 3am. Mr Sandy Spence, the Mayor of Ballymena, said people were horrified by the destruction. Within hours of the explosion Mr Gerry Adams, the Sinn

Fein President, said it was the "inflexibility" of the British Government over Ulster that was perpetuating a war which Britain could not win.

Speaking in Belfast at Sinn Fein's "Six County Internal Conference" Mr Adams, MP for West Belfast, challenged the Government to follow through on remarks in the autumn by Mr Peter Brooke, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, to the effect that the IRA could not be defeated militarily, and that in the event that the Republican armed struggle ceased, the Government should react "imaginatively".

Mr Adams said Sinn Fein wanted to know what Britain's response would be if the IRA called a halt to the violence.

The RAF Red Arrows aerobically display team left for Cyprus over the weekend for the final three weeks of training before the 1990 season starts (Michael Evans writes).

Last year the famous Red Arrows, who are based at RAF Scampton in Lincolnshire, celebrated their 25th anniversary.

This year they hope there will be another reason for celebration. For the first time the RAF team of Hawk jets is expected to give a flying display in the Soviet Union.

Although the visit has still not been officially announced, the Red Arrows team has already renamed one of their manoeuvres after a Soviet aircraft, the Flanker. The Su-27 Flanker is a new generation single-seat fighter.

If the Soviet trip is approved by Moscow, as expected, the Red Arrows will appear during the month-long British Festival in June in Kiev, which is to be attended by the Princess Royal and the Prime Minister.

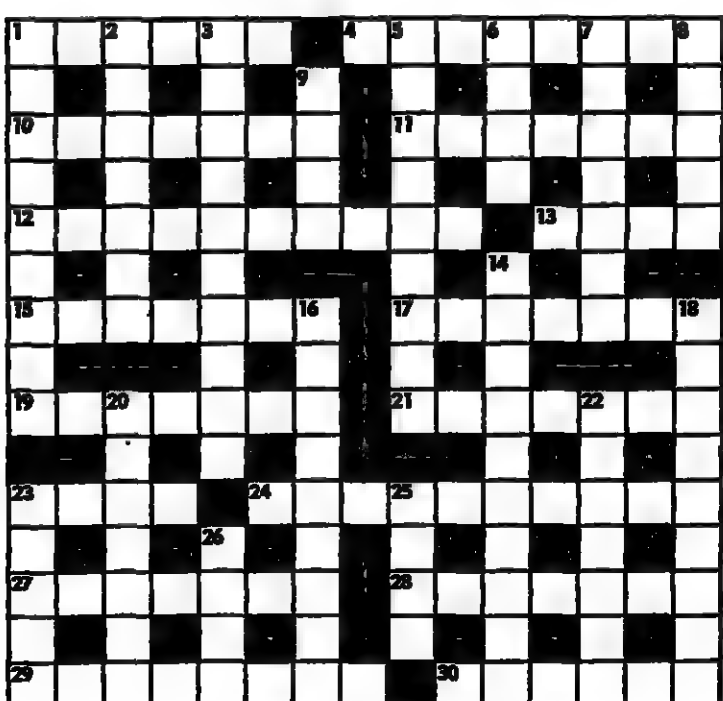
The festival will include a

trade fair to help exports. The Red Arrows' training has been disrupted this year by the gales which hit Britain. Several days were lost when the Hawk jets were unable to take off. In yesterday Wing Commander Michael Hall, supervisor of the Red Arrows, said the team was nearly ready for the season. "The three weeks in Cyprus with guaranteed good weather will put the final polish on the training."

The Red Arrows, who will be led for the third and final year by Squadron Leader Jim Miller, have three new members: Flight Lieutenants Andy Wyatt, Tony Smith and Paul Rogers. Wing Commander Hall said that the team would be taking part in 100-130 shows. This will include the Farnborough air show in September. The season will end with a display in Italy.

A new manoeuvre has been devised for this season, called the Tago formation. It consists of all nine aircraft in a large 'T' shape, with five flying in a straight line and four following in single file.

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,251



### ACROSS

- Humour eliciting irate response? (6)
- The other side of the coin, so to speak (8)
- Cold continent (7)
- A man like Uriah Heep possibly agrees with the Right (7)
- Give voice about a mad character cracking up (10)
- Suspension from a rope (4)
- 6, say (7)
- Drink left for 13 (7)
- The boards should get the rate adjusted (7)
- She'll provide Stylock, for example, with change (7)
- Bound to be drawn (4)
- 17 worker on the watch (6,4)
- An individual in love — or in a fog (7)
- Regulations in the Orient covering a certain drug (7)

### DOWN

- A pest both naive and knowing (8)
- Persian king keeping quiet in Mediterranean island (6)
- Entrance for lorries? (9)
- Girl, moreover, has no end of books (7)
- Adults generally choose to speak out (10)
- Arranged for a design or model (9)
- Struggle over Welsh capital survey (4)
- Gnarled root — it's used as food (7)
- Within a year Lydia may be dead — so soon (5)
- Drop the rent (4)
- Agent about to advance one five hundred pounds in a grand manner (10)
- The Spanish tale men spin of the power of nature (9)
- Note obvious embarrassment and fatigue (9)
- Sees foreign cash is offensive to 6 (7)
- Less reputable publicity — and more nervous about it (7)
- Imperial Chinese would accept a point that's sound (5)
- No longer writing about the church (4)
- Pen name (4)

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 18,250 will appear next Saturday

Concise Crossword, page 22

## WEATHER

England and north Wales will be generally cloudy but stay mainly dry. North-west Scotland will have some rain in the evening. Remaining parts of Scotland, England and Wales will have a dry day with a sunny start in places. Some patchy cloud will develop. The best of any sunshine will be in the east. Outlook: Bright in south, cloudy in north.

### ABROAD

WEATHER (continued): 0—drizzle; 1—fog; 2—mist; 3—cloud; 4—rain; 5—snow; 6—hail; 7—thunder; 8—lightning; 9—strong wind; 10—calm.

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Precip
Algeria	17-23	SE	100	0
Alexandria	18-24	SE	100	0
Amman	18-24	SE	100	0
Baghdad	18-24	SE	100	0
Bombay	24-28	SE	100	0
Buenos Aires	18-24	SE	100	0
Calcutta	24-28	SE	100	0
Cairo	18-24	SE	100	0
Colon	24-28	SE	100	0
Hong Kong	24-28	SE	100	0
London	12-18	SE	100	0
Madras	24-28	SE	100	0
Mumbai	24-28	SE	100	0
New Delhi	24-28	SE	100	0
Paris	12-18	SE	100	0
Rangoon	24-28	SE	100	0
Shanghai	12-18	SE	100	0
Singapore	24-28	SE	100	0
Tokyo	12-18	SE	100	0
Yokohama	12-18	SE	100	0

## WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?  
By Philip Howard

- ATARAL**  
a. A kind of abacus  
b. A keratinous  
c. A primitive error
- MAMMETS**  
a. Female breasts  
b. Windfall apples  
c. Sticky sweetmeats
- TONTINE**  
a. With slanted lead  
b. Savoury takes all  
c. A knotted breastplate
- BOLT-ON**  
a. Kind of cross-country race  
b. Additional  
c. Ready to shoot

Answers on page 22, column 4

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

Location	Code
London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T.	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T.-M25	734
M-ways/roads M25-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	737
National motorways	738
West Country	739
Wales	740
Midlands	741
East Anglia	742
North-west England	743
North-east England	744
Scotland	745
Northern Ireland	746
AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).	

### LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10C (50F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 55 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.02 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.5 hr. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,017.5 millibars, rising.

Today: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 13C (55F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Humidity: 6 pm, 54 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.02 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.5 hr. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,017.5 millibars, rising.

### HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Heathrow Airport, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Avonmouth, 10C (50F); highest day max: London, 15C (59F); highest sunrise: Leathers, 15C (59F).

### MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10C (50F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 54 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.02 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.5 hr. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,017.5 millibars, rising.

### GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10C (50F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 54 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.02 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.5 hr. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,017.5 millibars, rising.

## Western Scotland, Northern Ireland, north-west

England and north Wales will be generally cloudy but stay mainly dry. North-west Scotland will have some rain in the evening. Remaining parts of Scotland, England and Wales will have a dry day with a sunny start in places. Some patchy cloud will develop. The best of any sunshine will be in the east. Outlook: Bright in south, cloudy in north.

### AROUND BRITAIN

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Precip
Birmingham	12-18	SE	100	0
Bristol	12-18	SE	100	0
Cardiff	12-18	SE	100	0
Edinburgh	12-18	SE	100	0
Exeter	12-18	SE	100	0
Gloucester	12-18	SE	100	0
Leeds	12-18	SE	100	0
Liverpool	12-18	SE	100	0
Manchester	12-18	SE	100	0
Newcastle	12-18	SE	100	0
Nottingham	12-18	SE	100	0
Sheffield	12-18	SE	100	0
Sunderland	12-18	SE	100	0
Swansea	12-18	SE	100	0
Torquay	12-18	SE	100	0
Wolverhampton	12-18	SE	100	0
Wrexham	12-18	SE	100	0

Weather forecasts are latest available

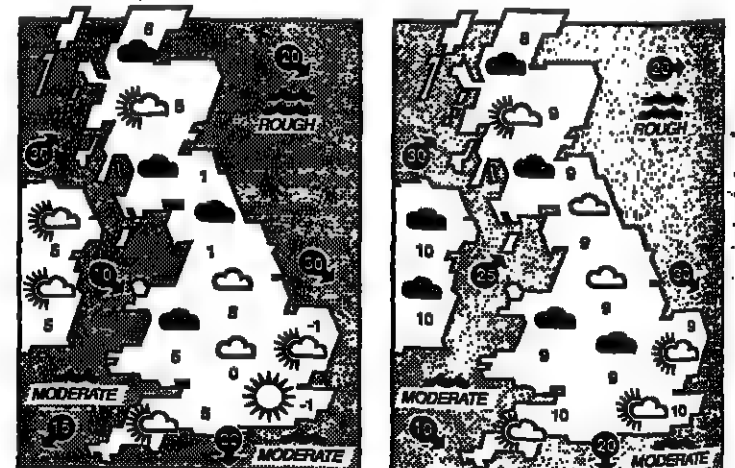
### WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Location	Code
Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hampshire & IOW	703
Wiltshire & Cornwall	704
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Avon, Somerset	705
Berkshire, Bucks, Oxford	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shropshire, Hereford & Wores	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincoln & Humberside	713
York & Pows	714
Gloucestershire & Cotswolds	715
NW England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
NE England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
SW Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & S Highlands	724
NW Scotland	725
Caitness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

## AM PM



### LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 7.25 pm to 6.45 am  
Belfast 7.25 pm to 6.55 am  
Manchester 7.25 pm to 6.55 am  
Penzance 7.44 pm to 7.10 am

### YESTERDAY

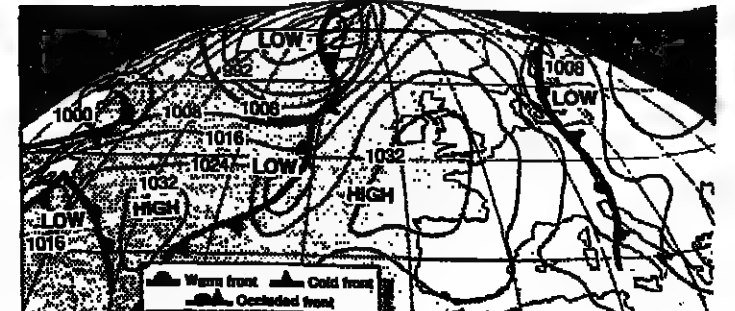
Temperatures at midday yesterday: a, about 10°C; b, 11°C; c, 12°C; d, 13°C; e, 14°C; f, 15°C; g, 16°C; h, 17°C; i, 18°C; j, 19°C; k, 20°C; l, 21°C; m, 22°C; n, 23°C; o, 24°C; p, 25°C; q, 26°C; r, 27°C; s, 28°C; t, 29°C; u, 30°C; v, 31°C; w, 32°C; x, 33°C; y, 34°C; z, 35°C.

### HIGH TIDES

Location	AM	PM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.05	6.35	2.35	7.35	2.35
Aberdeen	1.45	4.15	1.45	4.15	1.45
Belfast	1.15	3.45	1.15	3.45	1.15
Cardiff	1.25	3.55	1.25	3.55	1.25
Devonport	1.35	4.05	1.35	4.05	1.35
Dover	1.45	4.15	1.45	4.15	1.45
Falmouth	1.55	4.25	1.55	4.25	1.55
Glasgow	1.65	4.35	1.65	4.35	1.65
Harwich	1.75	4.45	1.75	4.45	1.75
Holyhead	1.85	4.55	1.85	4.55	1.85
Isle of Man	1.95	5.05	1.95	5.05	1.95
Leith	2.05	5.15	2.05	5.15	2.05

This is midday: 1st-3rd 2000h, Times are GMT

### NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

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MONDAY MARCH 26 1990

25

Executive Editor  
David Brewerton  
CHANGE ON WEEK

## THE POUND

US dollar  
1.6030 (-0.0210)

W German mark  
2.7419 (-0.0087)

Exchange index  
86.1 (-0.5)

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1795.1 (+5.7)

FT-SE 100  
2283.9 (+20.0)

USM (Datastream)  
142.54 (-1.8)

## BTR to fight bid hurdles in court

From Our Correspondent  
Los Angeles

BTR returns to a US court today in an attempt to dismantle two hurdles which threaten to scupper its hostile \$1.6 billion takeover bid for Norton Company, the Massachusetts sandpaper and grinding wheels company.

The British company gained a temporary standstill order over the Massachusetts state laws 10 days ago but must now argue successfully that they are not applicable in its case.

The first is a law which cancels votes on any share above 20 per cent bought without board approval of the target company. The second is capable of stopping power changing hands. Without the target company board's approval, a bidder buying more than a 5 per cent stake has to get 90 per cent of the outstanding shares to gain complete control.

Corporate lawyers say failure to capture 90 per cent of the shares would ensure a persistent predator in all kinds of US tax traps. BTR has so far bought only a 1.6 per cent Norton stake for \$15 million.

Should BTR win today's court hearing, Norton still has its own takeover-thwarting poison pill. This allows employees to buy Norton shares very cheaply and is designed to make a hostile takeover prohibitively expensive.

Blocking that tactic could mean changing the entire Norton board, which BTR threatens to attempt in a proxy fight at Norton's annual meeting on April 26.

Norton directors have until Thursday to give a formal response to the bid. So far they have said only that they are exploring all their options. Norton's shares closed in New York on Friday \$1.375 above BTR's \$75-a-share cash bid.

## Japan and US aim to calm markets

From Susan Elliott  
Washington

The US has complied with a request from Japan to help calm exchange rates.

Mr Nicholas Brady, the US treasury secretary, met Mr Ryusaro Hashimoto, the Japanese finance minister, for talks in California at the weekend, in an effort to stabilize international markets after a sharp fall in the Tokyo stock market last week and the continued slide in the yen to its lowest in three years.

In a joint statement which contained no new policy initiatives, they "reaffirmed their commitment to economic policy co-ordination, including co-operation in the exchange markets."

Neither said whether co-operation would involve stronger intervention in exchange markets to stave off the fall of the yen against the dollar or lower interest rates to try to weaken the US currency.

## TOURIST RATES

	Rate	Bank
Australia \$	2.25	2.10
Canada \$	1.25	1.15
Denmark kr	16.50	15.50
France FF	6.55	6.45
Germany DM	2.85	2.85
Greece Dr	277.50	277.50
Hong Kong \$	1.10	1.10
Ireland P	1.08	1.01
Italy Lira	2115	1985
Japan Yen	160	160
Netherlands Gld	3.205	3.025
Norway Kr	11.00	10.45
Portugal Esc	204.5	204.5
Spain Ptas	166.67	166.67
Sweden Kr	10.36	9.85
Switzerland Fr	2.34	2.28
Turkey Lira	4310	3610
USA \$	1.00	1.00
Yugoslavia Dnr	100	100

Source: The Financial Times. Rates are for 100 units of foreign currency against the pound sterling. Bank rates only. All rates subject to change without notice.

# Ridley delays MMC water merger report

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Trade Secretary, has held back publication of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the three-way merger of private water companies into Three Valleys Water, because of concern in the Government and the Office of Water Supply over a further shrinkage of the number of independent water suppliers.

No date has yet been fixed for publication of the report, although it has been with Mr Ridley since February 12.

The Commission is also due to report by April 12 on the minority interest of Southern Water, the privatized former water and sewage authority, in Mid Sussex Water, and on a 29.9 per cent stake in Mid Kent Holdings, one of the larger independent private water companies, held by Compagnie Générale des Eaux, the French group that would control Three Valleys.

The Department of Trade and Industry could not confirm that the Three Valleys report might be held up to coincide with the other reports, enabling Mr Ridley to lay out a general policy on future mergers.

The merger of Lee Valley, Colne Valley and Rickmansworth Water into Three Valleys, which was proposed last July and referred to the Commission in September, is viewed as a special case.

It would bring together the divided ownership of the modern river treatment works, in which Rickmansworth and Colne Valley each have a

three-sevenths stake and Lee Valley one-seventh.

But it would also give CGE control over four companies supplying 2.8 million people round north and west London, together the fifth largest water supplier in the country. CGE owns Lee Valley, has substantial stakes in Colne Valley and Rickmansworth and controls the adjacent North Surrey Water.

CGE already controls two more private water companies - Folkestone and Tendring Hundred - and has the largest interest in Bristol Water and South Staffordshire Water, the biggest remaining independent, as well as Mid Kent.

The Mid Kent inquiry is likely to find that CGE could be in a position to exercise influence, especially in conjunction with SAUR, a rival French water group that also has a substantial stake.

The Three Valleys merger could indirectly set off a further round of deals, since SAUR has a blocking stake in Rickmansworth and is, thought to want to expand its interests in the Kent and Sussex area, where it controls three adjacent companies.

Mr Ian Byatt, the director of water services, the financial regulator for the industry, is anxious to maintain enough independent companies to make wide comparisons of performance and efficiency, as a proxy for direct competition.

But there are widely differing views about how many are necessary to achieve this, against the possible efficiency gains of bringing together smaller units.

There are only 10 sewage

groups - the privatized former authorities. In theory, there are 39 water suppliers, including the former authorities. But CGE, SAUR and Lyonnaise des Eaux control or have large minority holdings in 17 - many of them contiguous. Lyonnaise has also bought big holdings in two privatized authorities.

Mr Byatt has recently been to France for discussions over the plans of the three French groups, which now control water supplies comparable in size to those of the individual privatized groups.

All three also plan expansion into other public services such as waste disposal or private health care, thereby aiding the Government's contracting-out policies.

It is unusual for MMC reports passing a merger to be delayed in the DTI, since it then has no powers to exercise. But Mr Ridley has a special interest. As Environment Secretary, he was responsible for setting up the regulatory regime for water.

Delays are more usual when a merger is turned down by the MMC, in which case the Trade Secretary can reject its decision, or if conditions are attached which require negotiation with the parties.

Mr James McGowan, managing director of Lee Valley and managing director designate of Three Valleys, said he knew of no such negotiations.

"We are awaiting the Secretary of State's decision with as much interest, indeed rather more interest, than anyone else," he added.

## Boots sells Ward White automotive firms in US

By David Brewerton

Boots has sold the United States automotive interests of Ward White, the retailing group it acquired in a hostile takeover last year.

The three businesses, Whitlock Corporation, Rose Auto and R&S/Struss, were always destined to be sold after the takeover, since Boots did not share Ward White's enthusiasm for the US operations.

It is understood that the businesses have been sold to one buyer, bringing proceeds from US disposals to about £120 million. The buyer appears to be a management consortium backed by a leading investment house.

The market is likely to react positively, both to the timing of the deal, just before Boots' year-end on Saturday, and to the fact that the businesses will not be a burden on management pending sale.

The package, which Ward White was in the process of integrating into a single cohesive business, comprises 280 retail units, a mixture of auto parts shops and service bays.

In one defence document, Ward White claimed that the businesses were operating on margins among the highest in the sector, and that there was further opportunity to increase profits by introduction of electronic point of sale equipment and through greater buying power.

The division reported sales of £85 million in the six months to last July, the last for which results were published. Operating profit was £7.8 million, against £6.1 million.

The sale is likely to reduce Boots' net financial gearing to about 25 per cent at year-end, after the disposal last month

of another Ward White operation in America, the Childs Corporation, a safety footwear distributor, for \$60 million.

The two sales, amounting to some \$150 million, will offset the £900 million costs of the takeover, and, although the proceeds are at the bottom end of expectations, they will remove some of the strain from the year-end balance sheet.

It is understood that the chairman, Sir James Blyth, has ruled out a sale of the pharmaceutical division, for which an approach was made by the French group Rhône-Poulenc.

This is partly because the new heart drug, Manoplax, is again doing well in clinical trials after disappointing results last year.

Boots has been anxious to reduce its gearing after the Ward White takeover.

## Minorco clinches US deal

By Colin Campbell  
Mining Correspondent

Minorco, the cash-rich Luxembourg-based investment group, will today announce that it has secured more than 40 per cent of the US gold mining company Freeport-McMoRan Gold after its \$1.7-a-share tender offer.

The takeover is expected to be followed by other US

acquisitions as Minorco expands its natural resources portfolio. Though the takeover will cost \$705 million, Minorco will still have \$1.8 billion cash in the bank.

In pursuit of Freeport-McMoRan Gold - its first significant venture since losing last year in the £3.5 billion battle for Consolidated Gold Fields - Minorco cleared various US hurdles. Judge Myriam Altman of the New York Su-

preme Court last week ruled that Minorco's South African links should have no bearing on its ability to do business in the US.

The ruling halted an application by Asarco, the US copper group, that Minorco's ownership of Freeport Gold would imperil US government funding of an experimental copper project in which Asarco is involved with Freeport Gold.

Bank hopes to regain money after deadline is set for MiniScribe sale

## Standard \$30m hangs in balance

From Philip Robinson, Los Angeles

Standard Chartered Bank will discover in 10 days whether it has lost all the money it lent to MiniScribe, the US computer components maker now in bankruptcy and whose previous management is alleged to have defrauded shareholders.

Standard has lent a total of \$110 million to MiniScribe but has already made a provision against \$80 million in its own books.

An American bankruptcy court has given Mr Richard Rifenburg, MiniScribe's new chairman, chief executive and 15 per cent shareholder, until April 4 to conclude the sale of the company. Mr Rifenburg, who took over a year ago, was given a \$250,000-a-year salary which could have doubled with bonuses, and was granted options over 1 million MiniScribe shares at \$2.94.

He is negotiating with three potential

buyers, but without a firm deal the company will go up for auction on Wednesday week.

A MiniScribe spokesman added: "Standard Chartered Bank is a secured creditor. It comes high on the list to be paid out once the company is sold."

Last year, the bank waived a lending condition breached by MiniScribe on a \$90 million loan, which could have triggered foreclosure. It lent MiniScribe a further \$20 million after the computer group had declared bankruptcy.

MiniScribe was driven to protect its assets after eight separate legal actions from shareholders were filed, claiming the directors defrauded them and sold new shares in the company on false information. A six-month internal investigation into MiniScribe last year concluded that senior management had manipulated profit figures by fraud.

The report, covering the period from

1985 to the end of 1988, found that senior company officials had broken into locked trunks containing auditor's paperwork and inflated sales and profit figures.

Common building bricks were packaged to look like the company's hard disc computer products and sent to the distributors so that these could be counted as stock in transit. They were recorded in the 1987 statement as sales of \$4.3 million.

In 1988, when the report says MiniScribe was hitting the worst of its problems, the top five main board directors earned \$3 million between them. Mr QT Wiles, its chairman and chief executive officer, was paid \$357,626. In the 15 months which ended on October 2, 1989, MiniScribe had losses of \$236.6 million. Further losses are expected in the final three months of 1989 and for the first half of this year.

## NFC looking towards 1992

ALAN WELLER

By Derek Harris  
Industrial Editor



Clear strategy to strengthen continental presence: Jack Mather, chief executive of NFC

NFC, the former National Freight Consortium which is Britain's biggest freighter and distributor, is close to making two acquisitions of distribution companies in continental Europe. The deals will widen NFC's European operations ahead of the single market.

The bigger deal will increase NFC's presence in France where it already has a warehousing operation, near Paris, for the French Marks and Spencer stores.

The smaller deal is in Spain. It is regarded as strategically important because Spain is expanding rapidly, both industrially and as a supplier of fresh food for the rest of Europe, including Britain.

Mr Jack Mather, NFC's chief executive, said: "We have a clear strategy to strengthen our presence in mainland Europe in all the NFC divisions."

These include contract hire and rental, distribution and home services, of which Pickfords removals is a part.

He added: "We shall follow our customers into the Continent as we have with Marks and Spencer. But we shall also move by acquisition and are most interested in France, Spain and Germany."

NFC needed to be less dependent on the British economy, he went on. Last year 23 per cent of the group's profits came from outside Britain. This year the proportion is expected to rise nearer to 28 per cent.

NFC is talking to half a dozen British retailers which want to enter the Spanish market.

A hastening by NFC into mainland Europe would be a key development because it has been one of the more cautious among British transportation companies about expanding there. Until now it has been concentrating on the United States where, having secured a strong distribution base in the North-east, it now has the southern "sunbelt" states and the West Coast in its sights.

Other deals to strengthen the British presence in European distribution should soon be in the pipeline. Transport Development Group (TDG), which has built up substantial holdings in France and Holland, is now involved in negotiations which are expected to lead to additional acquisitions in France and Germany.

Other British operators with strong continental bases due for expansion include United Transport International (UTI), which is part of the BET services conglomerate, the P&O group, and Wincanton, part of Unigate.

## Tebbit set to leave board of Blue Arrow

By Michael Tate

Mr Norman Tebbit is expected to relinquish his directorship of Blue Arrow, the employment agency group.

The former Secretary of State for Trade and Industry could announce his decision at the Blue Arrow annual meeting tomorrow, when a vote will also be taken on a name change to Manpower.

It will bring to an end a bruising 2½-year experience for Mr Tebbit, who found Blue Arrow running into one crisis after another after his appointment in November 1987.

In December 1988 he was behind Mr Tony Berry in his ousting of the Manpower chief executive, Mr Mitchell Fromstein. Little more than a month later he was to back plans to remove Mr Berry, enabling Mr Fromstein to gain executive control of the group, as details of the cover-up over Blue Arrow's rights issue flop began to emerge.

Later the board came under fire over a £25 million loan to Mr Peter de Savary.

Under a three-year contract, Mr Tebbit was paid £17,500 a year.

His decision to go is said to have been inspired by the plans nurtured by BET, where he is a non-executive director, for a move into the recruitment agency market. These plans could involve the eventual purchase by BET of Blue Arrow's British operations.

The Blue Arrow directorship is one of five held by Mr Tebbit. As well as BET, he sits on the boards of British Telecom, Sears and JCB Excavators. He is also listed as adviser to the chairman of British Aerospace, Professor Roland Smith.

## Thriffs crisis 'to hit US property'

By Our Financial Staff

Commercial property prices in the United States, which have already fallen steeply, are likely to come under further pressure over the next few years due to the savings and loans crisis, according to Moody's Investors Service, the credit rating agency.

It says this is likely to have an adverse effect on the credit ratings of banks exposed to property lending.

US government action to resolve the crisis has already hit the market by effectively banning further property lending by the thriffs, which, at the peak of the crisis, lent a total

of \$290 billion to owners and developers and had \$13 billion of property investments.

Moody's says the Resolution Trust, the federal agency set up to take over bankrupt savings and loan companies, may have to take over and liquidate up to \$100 billion of properties by 1990.

Although the trust is enjoined not to sell at too big a discount, its sales are bound to hit property values and to prevent the financial system maintaining apparent values simply by avoiding sales.

Banks retreat, page 29

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## TEMPUS

# More investment trusts in the Pep frame

Mr John Major has given the investing fortunes of the investment trust sector a further boost by making it easier for individuals to invest in them through personal equity plans. By cutting the proportion of assets required to be held in the UK from 75 per cent to 50 per cent, the Chancellor has doubled the number of trusts qualifying for inclusion in Peps. He has also raised the annual investment limit by a quarter to £3,000.

For those tempted to take advantage of Mr Major's largesse, we have selected a selection from among the 80-odd trusts that now qualify.

The carrot, as with all Peps, is that income and capital gains from Pep investments are not taxed. Investment trusts generally make lower management charges and dealing spreads are narrower than those on unit trusts.

The new limits open up many of the big general trusts, such as Globe and Edinburgh, to Peps and it may be that Pep investors will be attracted by their spread of investments.

However, size is not always accompanied by lively performance, and Scottish Eastern, which has performed well over both one year and five years, may be a better bet.

Electra had also been a good performer until recently, with concerns about its exposure to leveraged buyouts holding the shares back. However, the discount to asset value is now much greater than last year. In this category, British Assets has a particularly good yield.

Among the high yielders, Murray Income and Dunedin High Income (which has just changed its name from First Scottish American) have good records. Most of the income trusts were eligible before the

Budget because they are largely invested in Britain, but there must be a question mark over income growth in the next 18 months, as there is with British stocks generally.

Split-level income shares are not suitable for Peps because they usually generate a capital loss, which cannot be transferred outside the Pep. However, adventurous Pep investors should consider split-level capital shares because the capital gains they generate will then be tax-free. Yeoman Capital is a good bet because it will be wound up in 1992, but for those who can wait until 1998 for the pay-off, Scottish National Capital stands at a stiff discount to assets and is highly geared.

## Charter Consolidated

Charter Consolidated has long suffered the ignominy of watching City investors gazing over its shoulder, trying to guess what Minoro, the holder of 36 per cent, will do next, before making their investment verdict.

Now, at last, Charter is demonstrating that it is, after all, its own man.

Another non-performing asset — its majority holding in Beralt Tin & Wolfram — is to go as the more energetic management team under Mr



Jeffrey Herbert wants active role for Charter Consolidated. Jeffrey Herbert, chief executive, gets into its stride.

Mr Herbert — who said of Charter last June that it was like Sisyphus trying to roll stones up asset mountains, only to find them rolling down again as soon as they reached the top — is now visibly moving Charter from a pas-

sive to an active investment group by the day. Earlier this month, Charter put up for sale its MKR Holdings subsidiary, which makes drink and food-cooling equipment used beside Wimbledon's Centre Court. MKR could fetch £10 million. Beralt has capital of be-

tween £10 million and £12 million employed, but in recent years has not been making the returns that such sums suggest. Since Beralt, operating in Portugal, is the only wolfram mine producing tungsten concentrate in Europe, its sale should be of interest to other mining groups seeking European expansion.

Charter is selling Beralt in a very public manner by putting up a "for sale" sign, and already a queue of buyers is forming.

In former days, a Charter asset sale might have gone to a company in its family. Now, Minoro — keen to expand in its own right — will have to join the queue if interested.

The Herbert philosophy is that every Charter asset should earn its keep. If that is to remain the guiding light, Charter's holding of Minoro shares — last publicly disclosed at 3.8 per cent, but probably lower now — may not stay. The 39 per cent stake in Johnson Matthey does, however, remain "strategic."

Charter's new management is determined that, within three years, at least 60 per cent of pre-tax profit will be generated from managed businesses, rather than the mere 30 per cent now.

The Beralt exit sees Charter bidding goodbye to hard rock mining, and allows it to concentrate on Anderson Strath-

clyde (underground mining equipment); Pandrol (rail fastenings); Cape Industries (building products); quarrying and other opencast mining interests. Pandrol doubled its size in January through buying various US rail track companies, and Charter's expansion is not over yet.

Charter shares, at 434p, trade on a 38 per cent discount to estimated net worth, and on pre-tax profits estimates of £78 million (£67.7 million) for the year to end March, sell at 9.1 times prospective earnings. Worth watching.

## Tokyo

Bulls of Tokyo seem to have disappeared, if only into temporary hiding. Kleinwort Benson, a long-time follower, suggests that there is nothing to hold the Nikkei index above 30,000 unless long-term bond yields drop from 7 per cent.

Higher interest rates reflect the internationalization of Japanese finance. That was pressed for by the US to boost the yen — which is certainly not happening at the moment — but also to harmonize Japan with the other leading nations. This is working, by dragging Japanese growth rates — on which its high share ratings depend — down to the dreary levels of Europe and North America. Equality is pulling the successful down, instead of raising the laggards.

## Strauss to increase trading capacity

By Neil Bennett

Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, the French-owned London securities firm, is increasing its market-making capacity. From today it will start dealing in 15 more stocks to bring its total to 46.

The move comes despite continuing low volumes in the London equities market, and is in line with Strauss's plan to make markets in all FT-SE 100 shares by the end of the year.

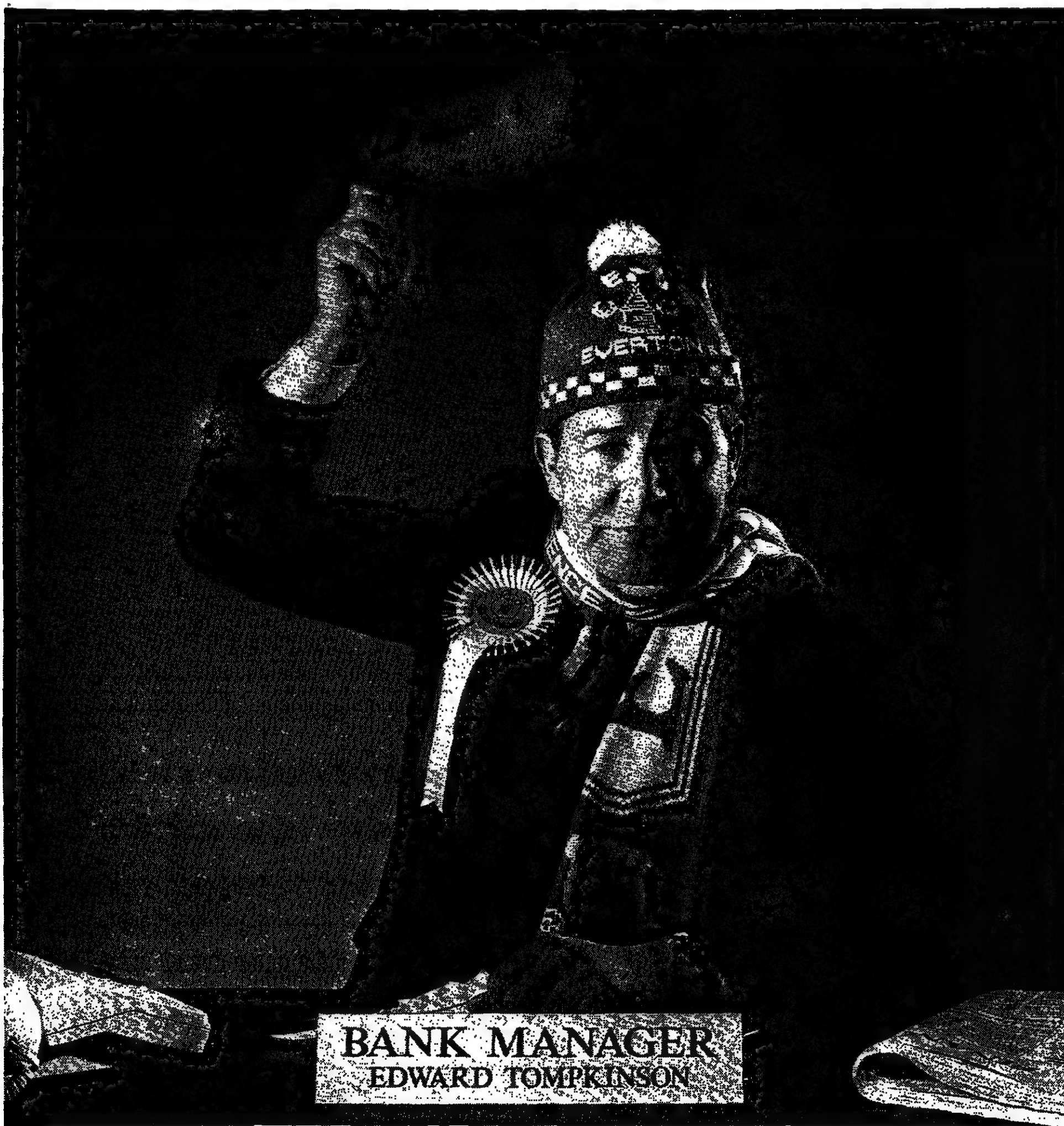
The shares being traded include the big four clearing banks, and Legal & General and the Prudential. The Strauss dealing department has a strong presence in derivative products, including traded options and American Depository Receipts, and most of the new companies it will deal in are also traded on the options market.

The total of shares dealt will increase to 47 next month when shares in Argos, the retailer which is being demerged by BAT, start trading.

The company now has just six market-makers working on UK equities, but plans to increase this number to 10 before it starts trading in all the other FT-SE stocks. Its share-dealing side remains profitable.

PEP INVESTMENT TRUST SELECTION				
	Price p	Discount to assets per cent	Forecast yield per cent	UK weighting per cent
Dunedin High Income	468	16	6.0	98
Yeoman Capital	135	21	nil	95
Scottish National Capital	55	50	nil	86
Murray Income	221	15	5.8	79
British Assets	72	22	7.0	73
Electra	258	18	2.7	67
Globe	171	18	4.0	64
Edinburgh	210	18	4.0	59
Scottish Eastern	167	18	3.0	53

Sources: Laing & Cruckshank, BZW, County NatWest Woodmac



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## GILT-EDGED

# Budget fails to brighten hopes on long yields

Stripping out the presentational frills, the Budget was the rather bland, neutral affair the financial markets had hoped Mr Major would eschew. Mr Major's judgement as the Chancellor spoke — the long gilt future slipped two points during the speech.

The yield on the benchmark Treasury 11½ per cent 2003/07 is now at its highest level since August 1982 and 2 per cent higher than at the turn of the year.

The reasons for the rise in yields have been extensively discussed. A list would include the worsening of the inflation outlook, rising real yields worldwide, the deteriorating fiscal position, expectations of a change in funding policy, the fall in sterling and the increased Labour lead in the opinion polls.

Does this long (although by no means exhaustive) list mean that, as a proof of Murphy's Law, everything that could go wrong already has, and that the worst is over? Unfortunately, probably not.

There are various lurking dangers that could push long-dated yields higher still, despite the extent of the setback.

Investors should worry about three issues.

First, base rates. Over the next few months base rates present a one-way risk — no hopes of a cut but the possibility of a rise. The threat comes via sterling. If the foreign exchange market becomes aggressively bearish of sterling (with higher German rates likely soon) then the Chancellor may have no option but to raise rates.

In the past, higher base rates have often proved to be eventually beneficial to the longer end of the gilt market. But this time is different. Higher base rates would worsen the recorded inflation profile and further damage the Government's standing in the opinion polls.

Secondly, the detailed annex in the Budget Red Book on funding policy did nothing to clear up the confusion on this issue. Reading between the lines, however, and bearing in mind the quite low PSDR forecast for the coming financial year, there does appear to be an official bias towards a resumption of selling gilt-edged stock.

Indeed, it is only a matter of time. One feature of the Budget forecast was how quickly the Treasury expects the fiscal surplus to disappear, even though it has pencilled in only very modest tax cuts for the next

Budget. On the Treasury's figures, the Budget is balanced in 1992-93.

This assumes that previously announced expenditure plans are met. Concern is being expressed about pressures on public spending and whether, after the summer's negotiations, Mr Major will be forced to announce a large rise in next year's planning total in the Autumn Statement.

Last year, the Treasury agreed to a £5 billion increase and the betting must be that a larger concession will be made this year.

In the Red Book, the Treasury stated that it was concerned about an excessive Treasury bill issue and that it may respond by "increasing gilt sales or reducing gilt purchases."

The real risk is that the Bank of England might start selling stock again quite early in the coming financial year.

Thirdly, in the longer term, inflation must be the most serious concern. The problem is not the 9 per cent-plus rate for April that will be released in two month's time. The problem is the next wage round, which begins in the autumn.

On the assumption that the economy will avoid a recession and that inflation will be at (or only just a little below) present levels when the serious bargaining begins, why should the level of settlements in the next wage round be any lower than now?

If there is no convincing answer to that question, then the conclusion is quite clear. The headline inflation rate will fall next year due to annual rate effects and because of lower interest rates, but the core rate will be stuck at a relatively high level.

At this stage, the danger will be that interest rate cuts will be driven by politics not economics. The long-term implications of this for sterling and long gilt yields are negative.

With the inflation outlook especially uncertain on domestic grounds and real yield prospects difficult to assess because of the international environment, the usual sort of analysis about the correct level of long yields has little value at the moment.

If the Bank is going to resume funding, however, we can resort to a more old-fashioned method of evaluation. Yields have to rise to a level where the institutions are happy to buy new stock — and we are not there yet.

John Sheppard  
SG Warburg Securities

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Business



# BAT's directors facing Goldsmith legal threat

By Colin Campbell

Members of BAT Industries' board stand to be sued in their individual capacity if they fail satisfactorily to answer, by Friday, questions submitted to them by Sir James Goldsmith, the financier.

Sir James, who last year mounted a £13 billion takeover bid — now lapsed — via Hoylake for the tobacco-to-financial services conglomerate, requires BAT to satisfy him that its directors have acted in the best interests of shareholders after what Sir James alleges has been "blocking action" against his bid.

Sir James said his questions arise out of information put at his disposal as a consequence of US regulatory hearings into the position of Farmers Group

should a takeover of BAT succeed.

BAT, Sir James and Axamidi Assurances — the French financial services group poised to take over Farmers should Hoylake win control of BAT — are embroiled in US insurance commission hearings as part of the bid battle.

Mr Patrick Sheehy, BAT's chairman, rejected Sir James's complaints yesterday, but added that the group would reply to his questions by the deadline.

They were submitted on counsel's advice, it is understood. They cover:

● BAT's alleged omission to advise shareholders and others that its share buy-back programme could incur £400

million advance corporation tax liabilities.

● Whether BAT had a definitive plan to buy a British building society, and if so why this plan was not disclosed.

● Whether it is right that Farmers should have spent an estimated \$150 million in trying to ensure Hoylake's bid does not formally reach BAT shareholders.

At issue is whether boardroom papers, marked "secret" and anonymously sent to Sir James last November, were merely the outcome of a "brainstorming" session, as BAT has asserted, or whether they were part of a genuine plan by BAT to thwart Hoylake and Sir James.

He has already secured

depositions from BAT directors and others present at the November 14 meeting.

Legal proceedings, if pursued, would involve a hearing before a judge in chambers, a petitioning of the court, and a court instructing the company (BAT) to sue its own directors.

BAT said Farmers had incurred costs of £21 million in responding to Hoylake's "offensive in the US."

Mr Sheehy said: "Hoylake may continue to complain but our proposals to reshape the group and ensure that our shareholders keep the value themselves are proceeding satisfactorily."

"I have no doubt that the board will robustly reject the criticism," Mr Sheehy added.

## Golf Fund makes £9m buys

MICHAEL POWELL



Mixing business and pleasure: Colin Snape, Golf Fund chief executive, manages to fit in a round of golf at the weekend

Last autumn, the City finance house Gironzentrale Gilbert Elliott raised £23.3 million of institutional money to invest in what it considered to be one of the boom markets of the nineties — golf.

Now, the Golf Fund, whose chief executive is Mr Colin Snape, former executive director of the Professional Golfers Association, has started to invest some of that money (Matthew Bond writes).

Two sites have been acquired. The first is at Hatfield Park, Stansted, Essex, where 350 acres have been bought from Mr Godfrey Corey-Wright for more than £5 million. The second is in Warwickshire, at Wootton Court, near Stratford, where the cost to date of acquiring 460 acres plus the squash and tennis club that the land surrounds is put at £4 million.

The fund is empowered to

borrow up to twice its equity, giving it potentially more than £70 million to invest.

Backing it are three of the City's leading institutions. Between them, Equity & Law, Norwich Union and Scottish Amicable own about 78 per cent of the equity. The National Farmers' Union Mutual Fund also owns a stake.

Mr Snape conceived the idea for The Belfry golf and hotel complex, near Birmingham, in 1974, and his plans for Hatfield Park and Wootton Court are similarly up-market.

Each complex of luxury hotel and two courses may cost between £25 million to £30 million. They will be run on a pay-as-you-play basis and will welcome everyone.

The fund will develop a two-star complex where that is what the regional market requires, and joint ventures have not been ruled out.

## Finance of generators thrown into doubt

By Martin Waller

The capital structure of PowerGen and National Power, the two new generating companies, has been thrown into doubt ahead of vesting day for the electricity industry, this Saturday.

The Energy Secretary, Mr John Wakeham, has suggested that the amount of government help might be limited.

He has asked the two generators for details of their plans to comply with increased pollution standards from fossil fuel power stations required after 1993 by the European Community, which relate to sulphur dioxide output, the main cause of acid rain.

It is these plans, and the Government's reaction to them, which will govern the future capital structure of the generators after privatization.

There was no point in throwing money at the generators in the hope that they would use it to clean up their act, Mr Wakeham said.

It is estimated that about 12,000 MW of new "clean" generating capacity is needed by the British industry to reach EC standards. Both companies have already identified projects that would account for two thirds of this.

Neither would comment formally, but it is clear that any suggestion that government help, in the form of low gearing to allow them to pay for the work needed, would not be forthcoming would seriously endanger prospects for the twin plants next year.

Focus, pages 31-39

## CBI drive for small investors

By Michael Tate

The CBI is stepping up its campaign to attract more individuals on to share registers. Company leaders will this week be asked about attitudes towards private investors in a survey by the CBI's Wider Share Ownership Task Force.

Mr Neil Stapley, managing director of NatWest Stockbrokers and a task force member, said: "A positive reaction from management is vital if we are to get a new investment message across to the man in the street."

The task force, set up to find ways to increase direct share ownership, and chaired by Sir Peter Thompson, of NCF, is writing to all UK-listed companies, more than 2,000.

## Major changes course over savings taxation

A radical change in the Government's approach to the taxation of savings has gone almost unnoticed. After solid progress during the 1980s in rationalizing the tax regime to promote economic efficiency, last week's Budget has swung the direction of reform through 180 degrees, raising the danger that we shall end up with the worst of both worlds rather than a coherent system.

The defect of the present system is that it treats different types of savings in different ways. Savings invested in an owner-occupied house or in a pension scheme attract big tax privileges. Buying shares in British industry, except in closely defined circumstances, does not.

In principle, it would be far more desirable to allow people to make their own decisions on how they allocate resources, uninfluenced by the priorities of governments expressed through the tax system.

There are two ways to move towards greater neutrality in the taxation of savings. One is to remove the tax privileges enjoyed by housing and institutional saving so that all savings suffer tax equally. The other is to extend tax relief to all savings so that effectively only that part of a person's income which is spent suffers tax — an arrangement known to economists as an expenditure tax.

Nigel Lawson chose the first approach. Though it would have been politically easier to give relief rather than take it away, he judged that the burden on government revenue of doing so was likely to make for very slow progress.

The technical problems of moving from an income tax to an expenditure tax also raise formidable difficulties.

The main disadvantage of the comprehensive income tax approach is that it maintains a bias against saving. Because people save out of taxed income, taxing the income on savings as well amounts to double taxation.

John Major in his "budget for savers" has begun to move in the opposite direction. "I am conscious," he said in his Budget speech, "that the majority of personal savings are the fruits of earnings which have already been taxed."

While Mr Lawson was by no means rigorous in his attack on relief, where he introduced distortions of his own they were usually for well-defined government objectives. Thus, personal equity plans (PEPs), which give a measure of relief on personal investment in shares, were aimed at spreading the habit of share ownership more widely.

The effect of tax-exempt special savings accounts (Tessas), announced last Tuesday, is much more fundamental. Tessas basically extend PEP treatment to deposits in banks and building societies, providing relief within certain limits to one of the main areas of personal saving.

This is clearly moving in the direction of an expenditure tax.

The expenditure tax concept can certainly be justified — the Institute for Fiscal Studies has been pressing its cause for more than 10 years — and over a period it might help to generate a net increase in personal saving, though initially most of the money entering Tessas will surely be switched out of other savings means. But the clarity of the Government's approach to the reform of taxation of savings has been well and truly muddled. The idea that treatment of institutional saving and personal saving can somehow meet in the middle, with some curtailment of institutional relief and some increase in personal ones, is not a recipe for precision or efficiency.

On fiscal neutrality outside the savings area, there is both progress and regress in the Budget. The continued assault on the under-taxation of company cars as an employee benefit is welcome. But the tax relief proposed for workplace nurseries sets boundaries which are difficult to defend and show every sign of storing up trouble for the Finance Bill. There is an economic case, and a case in equity, for tax relief on child care. The approaching shortage of young people coming into the labour force means that of encouraging women to go out to work may be helpful.

But for a government committed to helping small business and the self-employed it is odd to confine the relief so narrowly. Although it will reduce the cost of the relief in the short term, confining it to workplace nurseries is still likely to increase the demand for, and therefore the price of, those who work in nurseries.

The themes which run through Mr Major's Budget are an acute political awareness and a strong concern for the social effects of tax policies. These factors are behind the abandonment of composite rate tax on bank and building society deposits, which, since it is not reclaimable, taxes the non-taxpayer and transfers the money to the better off tax-paying depositor. This blatantly sacrifices fairness to administrative convenience and its abolition is to Mr Major's credit, though it must surely bring blushes to the face of a government which extended CRT more widely to take in the banks only in 1984. Politics and a concern for the less fortunate are also detectable in the measures on football and charities as well as Tessas.

Mr Major's approach to tax policy certainly has a distinctive feel to it. It is not just politically adroit. Moreover, in resisting calls to raise the ceiling for mortgage interest relief and to abolish stamp duty on houses as well as shares he has shown insight and courage. But intellectual consistency, routinely undervalued at Westminster, is not the Budget's most prominent feature.

Rodney Lord  
Economics Editor

## Fighting worker stress for £25 a year

By Graham Searjeant

British companies are to be offered a programme for troubled employees to be counselled by chartered clinical psychologists — at an average annual cost of between £25 and £40 an employee.

The service would be confidential, with employees telephoning a helpline and arranging up to four counselling sessions a year, off the premises, usually in the evening or at weekends. Employers would receive only general statistics about usage of the scheme.

Corecare, the company offering the service, says it is the first in Britain to use a network of up to 40 fully professional clinical psychologists throughout the country.

Mr Richard Hopkins, a one-time City advertising executive who has set up Corecare, saw the market opportunity when he was advising Bloomsbury Health Authority on marketing its services, but decided that the National Health Service did not have the necessary business skills.

Working from American experience, Mr Hopkins estimates that companies could save an average £100 a year per employee from stress-related absenteeism and underperformance if they have a proper psychological counselling programme.

The Health and Safety Executive has estimated that stress-related absenteeism costs British industry £2 billion a year.

Mr Hopkins said: "There is nothing philanthropic about

employee assistance programmes. They are a management tool to achieve a higher level of performance."

He said the service was aimed at "people who are normally well, but just cannot cope and need a little bit of help". They were often loath to use in-house counselling for fear that management might learn of their problems. American experience suggested that between 6 and 8 per cent of eligible employees would be using the service.

## Newsletter strikes gold

James Capel, the broker, is throwing a lunchtime birthday party today to celebrate a notable achievement. It is for the 1,000th edition of the *James Capel Mining Newsletter*, which was the first of its kind and which Julian Baring — the firm's gold guru — started 20 years ago to inform clients and friends of developments in the mining world. Today's guests include friends and foes down 20 years, and some of the more amusing Baring barbs will be recalled. They helped make the *Newsletter* required, and often amusing, reading. The good and some of the great will include representatives of RTZ, Minorco and De Beers, but regrettably Rudolph Agnew (against whose Consolidated Gold Fields group James Capel fought on behalf of his client Minorco in the 1989 takeover battle) has a prior luncheon engagement. "We would love to see Rudolph there," Capel's mining team said, "even if he would care to pop in after lunch."

## PZ pointer

If you want to know on which Tuesday the 1991 Budget will be delivered, find out when next year's interim results from the Customs Imperial Leather group Paterson Zochonis are due. For nine of the past 10 years, PZ has not missed a Budget Day when it comes to announcing its half-time figures. "We do not plan it like that," finance director

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Queue jumpers . . .

The first store in Britain set up by Dawson International for its Ballantine cashmere brand got off to a roaring start last week — even before the doors officially opened. The manager was getting ready for the opening party on Thursday night, with the brown paper still in place over the windows, when a knock on the door was

Round the World boats, and names the yacht as current race leader *Steinlager 2*. Unfortunately the boat pictured is not the famous New Zealand ketch, but the rather less successful Finnish sloop *Martela Of*. Her keel fell off in the South Atlantic. Happily, all on board were saved, but if Commercial Union insured the total loss for *Martela Of*, mistaking her for *Steinlager*, it could make an interesting note on next year's accounts.

### Ketch-22

Commercial Union's annual report and accounts contain an evocative sailing shot of a large yacht ploughing a white furrow across a green ocean. The caption announces that CU is the leading underwriter for many of the Whitbread



## Travelling light

The takeover of AT Mays, one of Britain's top five travel agency chains, by Carlson of America, with its expansive business travel interests, will not appreciably change the lifestyle of the resident Moffat family. The Moffats founded AT Mays in the early 1950s at Saltcoats, on the Clyde near Ardrossan. Still enconced as the chairman will be 70-year-old Jim Moffat, the founding father and a former bank clerk, and his son, Jamie, who will stay on as managing director. And Jim's wife, Marjorie, is also still active in the business. There are no plans for moving the headquarters from Saltcoats, with its views of hilly Arran. However, Carlson is planning a big push to expand the 300-outlet AT Mays chain beyond its heartland in Scotland and northern England and to beef up its business travel side. Jamie said: "It's fun running this business and we don't intend to stop. We have 250 headquarters staff and costs here are lower than they would be in many places." One thing which impressed the Americans was the consistent profitability of AT Mays. The Moffat family fortunes saw their benefit from the original sale of AT Mays in a phased takeover by Royal Bank of Scotland, which has now sold out an 88 per cent stake to Carlson. However, the Moffat family lives modestly, with Jim still putting in a full working week — and his only indulgence is a Jaguar car.


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## REPORTING THIS WEEK

## P&amp;O profits expected to steam ahead

Sir Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation, may have been thrust into a weekend dilemma over whether to raise the £441 million bid for Laing Properties from Pall Mall Properties, the joint venture between P&O and Mr Elliott Bernard's Chelsfield. But he should have no worries tomorrow about announcing P&O's profits for 1989.

Passenger shipping should show a strong advance reflecting the new working practices at P&O European Ferries. The results will benefit from the absence of the previous year's dock strike costs while profits from container and bulk shipping should have recovered in the second half. Profits at Bovis Homes are expected to drop sharply, but this will be compensated for by commercial and overseas construction.

Mr Charles Pick, at Nomura Research, expects full-year pre-tax profits of £380 million, against £316.6 million last time, although this includes a £22 million profit from the sale of the holding in Taylor Woodrow. Market forecasts range from £375 million to £385 million.

## TODAY

Interim: Lloyd Thompson Group, Osborn Estates, Parnall Textiles, Finesse: Bedford (William), Bostrom,

BPP Holdings, Brent Chemicals International, Brown & Jackson, Computer People Group, EBC Group, Epwin Group, Estates & General Investments, Gramplan Television, Memco (Wendy) and Electronic Components, P-E International, Rotork, Sykes-Pickavant, Technology Project Services, Trafalgar Park Estates, Usborne.

## TOMORROW

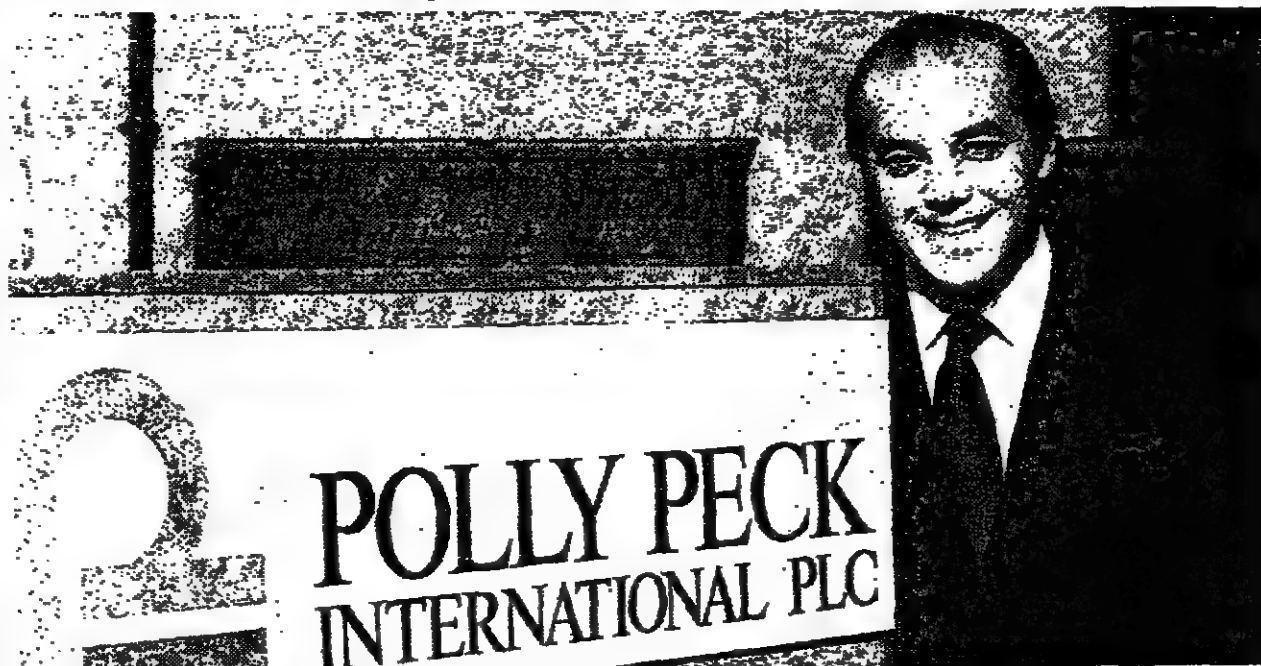
Prudential Corporation, the life insurance and financial services group, is expected to announce final pre-tax profits of £345 million, against £339 million, according to Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

Life profits in Britain should reflect the strong growth in new life and pensions business. However, general insurance was exposed to losses from Hurricane Hugo, British subsidiary claims and the Californian earthquake.

Interim: Halstead (James) Group, Finesse: Allied Partnership Group, ASD, Slater & Benson, Emerald, Buzil, Clifford Foods, Conder Group, Derwent Valley Holdings, Executive Clothing, Hambro Countrywide, Island Frozen Foods Holdings, Malaysia Mining Corp, Marley, Maybom Group, Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation, Parnall Textiles, Prudential Corporation, Scottish Heritage Trust, Singer & Friedlander Group, Siedley.

## WEDNESDAY

Bowater, the packaging and industrial products group, is expected to reveal pre-tax profits of £90 million for the



Seeing the results of dramatic changes: Asil Nadir, chairman of the rapidly expanding Polly Peck International

full year, against £76.7 million, according to County NatWest WoodMac. However, this includes a £15.5 million contribution from Norton Opax, the specialist print and packaging group, acquired last September.

Hawker Siddeley, the electrical to engineering group headed by Mr Alan Watkins,

is entering a fresh phase of restructuring.

Mr Nizam Hamid, at UBS Phillips & Drew, is looking for a 13 per cent increase in final pre-tax profits to £207 million, powered by 20 per cent growth from the electrical businesses.

Smith New Court expects the final pre-tax profits of Kingfisher, the retailing group

which is waiting for the MMC's verdict on its bid for Dixons, to reach £197.5 million, against £175.3 million. Forecasts range from £190 million to £202 million.

Interim: Barratt Developments, Corroy, Frogmore Estates,

Finesse: Atlas Converting Equipment, Boddington Group, Bowater Industries, Claydon Properties, Dunlop House Group, Edmond

Holdings, Explara Holdings, Gibbs and Dandy, Gramplan Holdings, Hawker Siddeley Group, Herring Son & Daw Holdings, Hogg Robinson & Gardner Mountain, House of Laroche, Kingfisher, Monument Oil and Gas, Page (Michael), Rookware Group, Senior Engineering Group, Sun Life Assurance, Wear Group.

## THURSDAY

The downturn in consumer spending will probably have

produced a fall in profits at Burton, the high street clothing retailer, with margins under pressure.

Nomura forecasts interim pre-tax profits of £105 million, against £117 million, including property development profits, which have seen a downturn, but excluding property disposal gains. Market forecasts range from £100 million to £117 million.

BZW expects pre-tax profits to tumble from £239 million to £147 million at Guardian Royal Exchange, the composite insurance group. The second-half figures will be hit by poor Irish motor results and a series of catastrophes, including British subsidiary claims, the Australian earthquake and Hurricane Hugo.

Polly Peck, the rapidly-expanding electronics and fresh produce group headed by Mr Asil Nadir, went through dramatic changes last year. News is awaited on the progress of the acquisition of Del Monte Fresh Fruit — which will make about a month's contribution to profits — and the controlling interest in Sansui Electric.

Mr Bob Carpenter, at Kitcat & Aitken, has pencilled in full-year pre-tax profits of £155 million (£112 million).

UBS Phillips & Drew expects final taxable profits of £244 million (£221.5 million)

for Redland, the building materials group, although this is at the lower end of forecasts ranging from £242 million to £250 million.

Interim: Bridport-Gundry, Burton Group, Mervill Group, Molyneux Estates, Murray Ventures, Town Centre Securities.

Finesse: Brooks Service Group, Burnham Oil, Capital and Regional Properties, Clarkson (Horace), Dapin, Dolgren Packaging, Duck Holdings, European Home Products, EV FACT, Fitch-RS, Guardian Royal Exchange, London Forstering, Macdonald Group (Clansman), NAW Computers, Pismac, Polly Peck International, Portsmouth Pottery (Holdings), Radous, Redland, Rayon Group, Slough Estates, Storm Group, Thames Television, Thurston Barlow, United Newspapers, Wembley, Western Motor Holdings, Wiles (James).

## FRIDAY

Flemings Research expects Pearson, the publishing group, chaired by Lord Blakenham, to report full-year pre-tax profits of £238 million (£198 million). Newspapers, which account for about 25 per cent of trading profits, should raise their pre-tax contribution from £54.4 million to £65.3 million, benefiting from the first full year of *Les Echos*, the French financial newspaper.

Interim: Adwest Group, Finesse: Anon Holdings, ATA Selection, Blackwood Lodge, Gardner (DC) Group, Gushouse Group, Lincoln House, Pearson.

Philip Pangalos

## US NOTEBOOK

## Banks retreat as property virus spreads

From Maxwell Newton, New York

The Federal Reserve may be in the process of throwing away all the hard-won gains in the battle against inflation over the past three years.

Since the middle of last year, money growth — at least for M1 and M2 — has boomed. Since last June, M2, which rose a mere 4 per cent annually in the two-and-a-half years to mid-1989, has been soaring at nearly 7½ per cent a year.

Such money growth may dampen hopes of declining US inflation. Prices are rising 4-5 per cent a year, as measured by "core inflation."

More disturbing still, the monetary base (the sum of banks' reserves plus currency notes and coins) has exploded since late 1989.

The St Louis Federal Reserve says that while the monetary base rose but 1.7 per cent a year in the six months to last September, its rate of growth since September has been a stunning 6.9 per cent.

Growth since last November has been even higher.

From November to March — the latest period for which data are available — the monetary base grew at break-neck speed — more than 10 per cent a year, according to the St Louis Fed.

Since Christmas, the bond market has been steeped in gloom. At the same time, commodity prices have been unexpectedly buoyant.

Is the answer to be found in a stealthy switch by the Federal Reserve to a policy of flooding the markets with cash?

Meanwhile, in another strange development, shares and bonds have headed off in different directions.

Since November, Standard and Poor's 500 index has remained about 340. But over the same period, the June Treasury bond contract has slumped from 100 to about 93, bringing unexpected losses to

those who were long in bonds at Thanksgiving.

Another odd development is that the commercial banks are too frightened to make new loans, particularly to anything that looks, walks or talks like property.

Small and large businesses alike are complaining the banks will not lend money.

Banks are scared to make loans. Their shares are under pressure, with most of the big New York and regional names at or near 52-week lows.

Note how the California banks — First Interstate, Security Pacific, Wells Fargo and Bank of America — have joined the New England and New York banks on the low price list. This is indicative of the spread of the property loan loss virus into California.

A pressure from the markets, from regulators and from their own balance sheets forces banks to hold back on new lending, businesses are turning to the commercial paper market for temporary relief, as some sort of credit crunch appears to be developing. Banks are turning towards security purchases to tide their profits over the scare.

The markets are thus transmitting two different messages. First, the bond market is telling us money growth is too fast and the Fed is "too easy."

Second, the commercial loan markets are telling us credit is ever more difficult to obtain and a credit crunch is in the making. This divergence of bond market views and of day-to-day credit experience may mean credit will become ever more difficult for businesses to obtain while its cost remains too high.

The sharp fall of durable goods orders in the first two months of 1990 — down 7 per cent on the December quarter and 5 per cent below the year-ago figure — is telling us that the industrial sector is heading for even more difficult times.

## US BANK SHARES AT OR NEAR THEIR 52-WEEK LOWS

	52 week high	52 week low	latest
Bank of New England	24	24	4
Bank of New York	55	34	37
Bank of America	36	21	28
Bankers Trust	58	36	39
Bank of Boston	30	13	15
Chemical Bank	41	25	25
Citibank	35	22	23
Continental Bank	26	15	17
First Chicago	49	31	31
First Interstate	70	32	35
Security Pacific	55	34	36
Shawmut National	29	14	14
Wells Fargo	57	64	72

## Buhrmann confident

By Sam Parkhouse

Buhrmann Tetterode, the Dutch paper and packaging group, is confident of winning the control of Robert Horne, the family paper group chaired by Sir Kenneth Berrill.

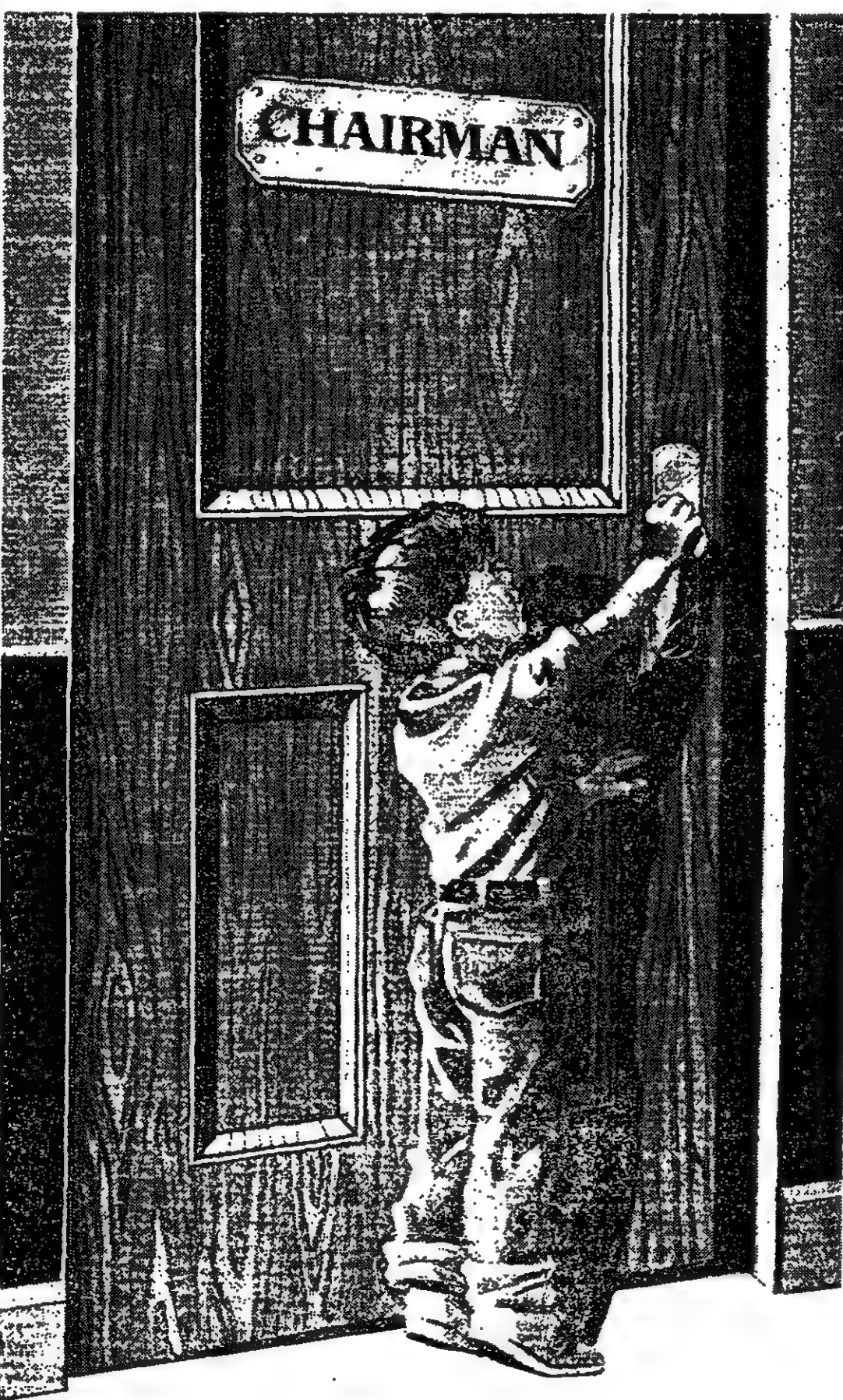
Robert Horne shares have been buoyant since January when Buhrmann approached Mr Kenneth Horne, the main family shareholder. They rose 3p to 41½p on Friday, against 250p before the approach.

Sir Kenneth, former chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, has con-

firmed that talks have taken place between the Horne family, which controls 51.3 per cent, and Buhrmann.

Buhrmann said it was hopeful of a successful outcome.

Mr Michael Baird, Robert Horne's joint managing director, said: "The discussions are serious ones." But neither he, nor Mr Horne, the president, was prepared to add to the original stance that an approach had been made to the largest shareholder which may lead to a full offer.



## When it's time to hand over the reins, will the new man measure up?

Sooner or later, it has to happen.

In every family business, there is a time when control is handed from one generation to the next.

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It's not that the new management isn't up to the job. But changes in style and different priorities inevitably cause uncertainty.

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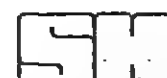
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Energy correspondent David Young on the countdown to privatization of power

# It's all systems go

**T**he privatization of the electricity supply industry is the most ambitious in Britain's history, with a price tag estimated at between £15-£20 billion. However, the final figure will be determined by stock market conditions and the economy.

Success seems to be assured. The appetite for shares in former State-owned companies created by the Government now appears limitless.

In addition, the format for privatization has survived early criticism and is now seen by most in the investment community as one which will encourage competition in the next few years. The number of investors who have already made clear their intentions to win a share of the future generating market is testimony to that.

The recently announced foray across the border by Hydro Electric, the former North of Scotland Hydro Electricity Board, into private sector power generation in England illustrates the emergence of a competitive climate which will delight the Government.

Hydro Electric is taking a share of the Thames Power project to build a gas-fired power station in East London. At 1,000 megawatts, it will be the biggest gas-fired station built in Britain. Hydro Electric is already the most experienced operator of gas-fired power stations in Britain by virtue of its successful running of the Peterhead power station. This has involved the company in building, operating and negotiating North Sea gas contracts in an area of power generation that is likely to become dominant in the coming decade.

The company believes the move is an ideal opportunity to break into the market south of the border. Although it has the capacity to sell power in England, its opportunities are limited by the cross-border grid system.

There is considerable doubt within some sectors of the electricity industry about the growth of competition. Some say it will be five to 10 years before meaningful competition develops. Until then, they believe, the two large generators being created from the Central Electricity Generating Board and the 12 area distribution companies based on the existing



## Sale of the century

*John Wakeham, Secretary of State for Energy, gives his views on the changes in the industry*

**A** new chapter in the history of Britain's electricity industry opens from midnight on Friday when the trading operations of 16 new public limited companies in England and Wales — and three in Scotland — will transform the present structure of the industry as a prelude to the most ambitious privatization ever undertaken.

From that moment, more competition will exist in the electricity industry in this country than anywhere else in the world.

A unique trading system for buying and selling electricity will begin operation for the first time, using a sophisticated computer system to process bids from power stations and to settle the price of electricity on a half-hourly basis.

area electricity boards will continue much as before.

An examination of the shape the industry will be in after next Saturday and comments being made by many of the senior executives who are going to be running these companies indicates that scepticism will soon be replaced by optimism and enthusiasm.

Almost all of the chief executives who will run the new companies have had lengthy experience in the electricity industry, but they are desperately

keen to operate their businesses in a true marketplace environment. Some of the manoeuvring to win large-scale industrial contracts should dispel any suggestion that cosy relationships built up over the years will form the basis of business in the future.

Privatization will not only meet the Government's objective of widening and deepening share ownership, it will also offer a chance to change the direction of the electricity supply industry so that it is more responsive to environmental concerns, pro-

Large and medium-sized customers — those taking over one megawatt — will be able to buy electricity from any supplier they choose. This has already led to fierce competition for power contracts between generators and area boards in recent months, and I anticipate it will result in significantly lower average prices for large customers. Customers taking below one megawatt, including domestic customers, will be protected by regulation and price control.

Within eight years the electricity market will be completely free. Everything is now set. Subject to market conditions, the first flotations will occur this autumn with the sale of the 12 area distribution companies in England and Wales.

The sell-off of National Power and PowerGen, the non-nuclear generating successors to the Central Electricity Generating Board, are planned to follow on the same day in February next year.

motes energy efficiency, offers improved consumer rights and provides more competitive pricing between other fuels.

The framework for privatization of the power industry emerged in the aftermath of the privatization of British Gas and British Telecom.

The movement of British Gas into the private sector achieved the Government's aims of the time — especially the creation of a new type of investor — but it replaced one monopoly with another, creating a problem which is only now being addressed through pressure from the Office of Gas Supply, following a Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation.

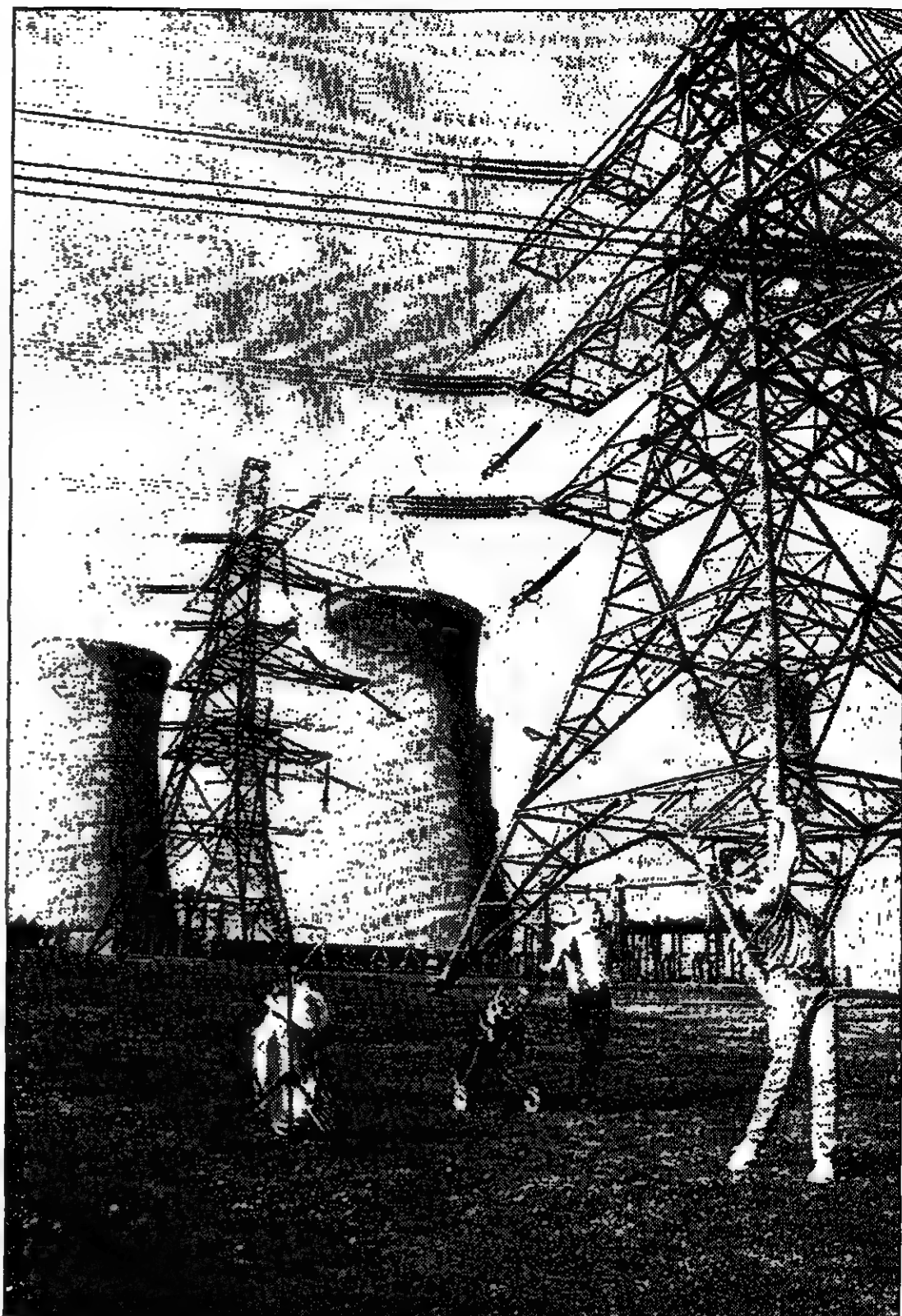
British Telecom moved into the private sector and was immediately affected by a long and bitter labour dispute and the need to re-equip large parts of its network. This created widespread customer dissatisfaction.

As a result, the Government decided that when the electricity supply industry came to the market true competition would be encouraged from the outset. There have been changes on the way. The most notable was the Government's decision to withdraw the network of nuclear power stations from the privatization programme. This was done after it became clear that the cost of nuclear power would be difficult to determine using private-sector accounting procedures.

It was a politically embarrassing decision which also led to the departure of Lord Marshall as chairman-designate of National Power, the larger of the two generators being created.

Behind the rhetoric about Government commitment to nuclear power lies the fact that for the next 10 years at least any new generating capacity will be fuelled by gas or, to a lesser extent, by coal or oil. This will result in a market for bulk gas sales, bulk gas transportation and even "spot" electricity sales, with existing and new generators competing for more business.

The winners in this should be the customers with lower costs and the shareholders in the electricity businesses with growing sales and sound dividends. The Government is hoping customers and shareholders will be one.



Tee break: staff enjoy the workers' mini golf course at Ratcliffe on Soar power station in the Trent Valley

The generating companies; National Power and PowerGen..... P2  
Battle for the National Grid; electricity as an investment..... P3  
Power plant makers; the Electricity Association..... P5

The role of British Coal; a sound future for the mains cable makers..... P6  
Alternative sources of energy; electricity's watchdog body..... P7  
Nuclear power's vital role; the contenders from the north..... P8

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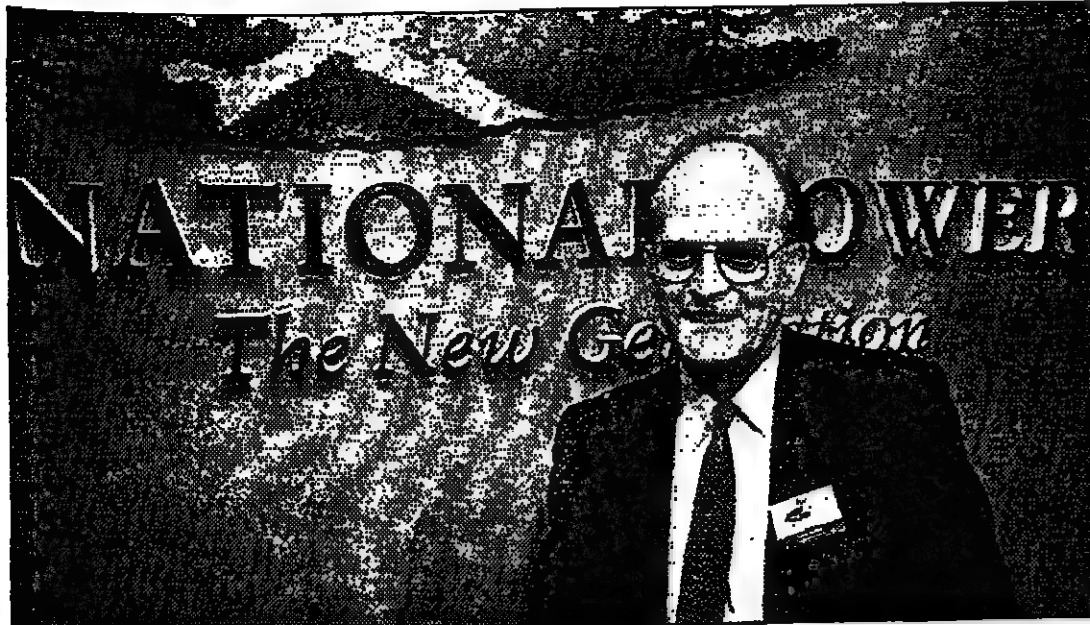
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*Making it happen*





The Central Electricity Generating Board is about to disappear. David Young profiles the two companies that will take its place



The optimistic approach: "We face the coming year with confidence," says John Baker, chief executive

## A giant in the power game

**S**alesmen at the two generating companies that will emerge from the Central Electricity Generating Board at the end of the month must feel like tweed-clad lords and lairds waiting for dawn to break over the grouse moors on August 12.

The reason is that a close season has been declared on direct selling of power to large industrial and commercial users, allowing the industry to concentrate on vesting and the introduction of its new commercial structure. Salesmen will have to wait before pouncing on the companies they have targeted as likely customers.

The pace of negotiations before the three-month "truce" came into effect on March 2 shows that competition is emerging between the two generators and that each will try to show that it is different in what it does and how it does it.

The larger of the two is National Power, which was originally intended to have 70 per cent of the

**'National Power will be among the world's largest companies and the world's largest private user of coal as a primary energy source. Its importance to the British economy cannot be overestimated'**

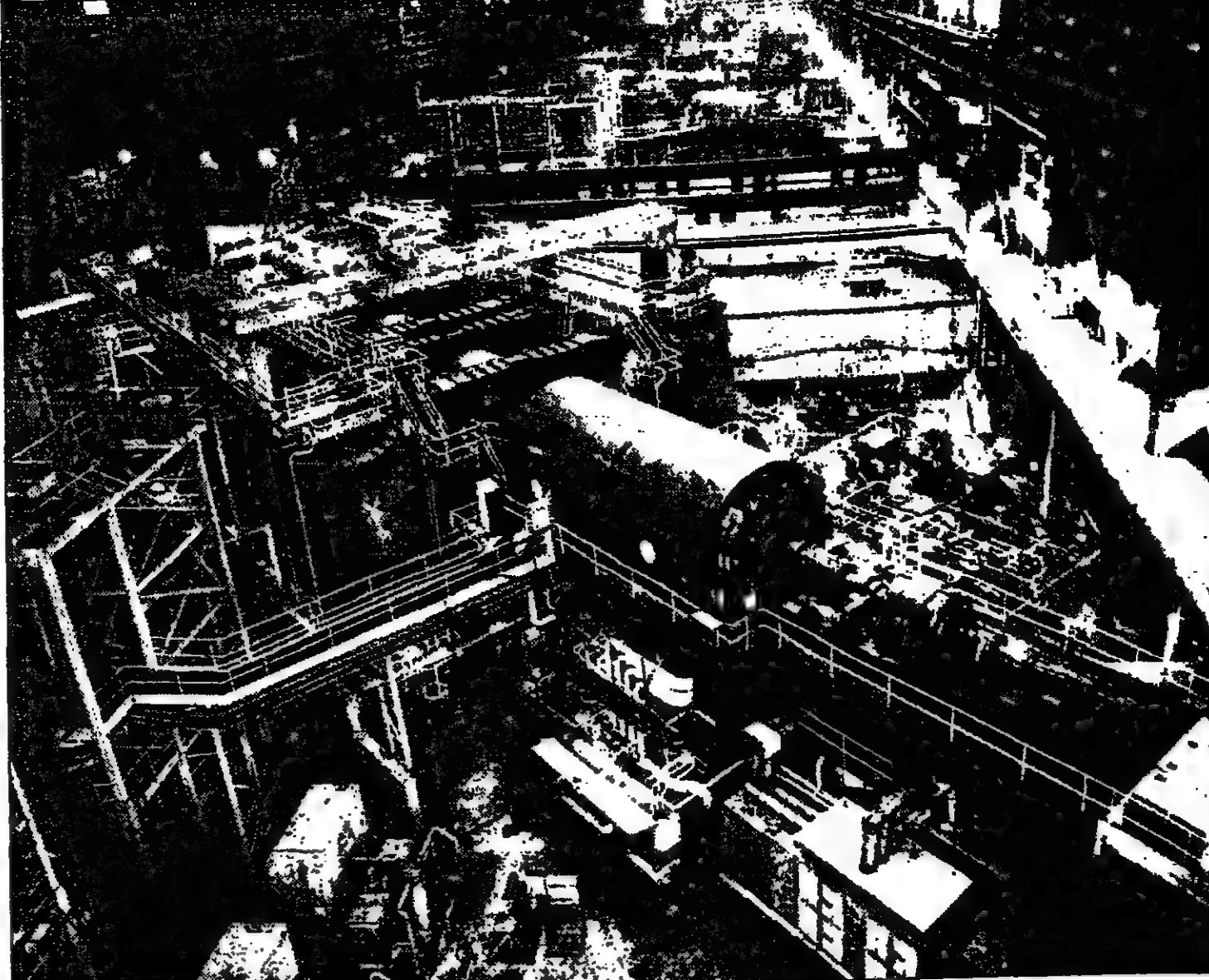
country's installed generating capacity. Now that the network of nuclear power stations has been taken from its portfolio, to be kept in government ownership, the split is nearer 60-40.

However, National Power will still be among the world's largest companies and will be the world's largest private user of coal as a

primary energy source. Its importance to the British economy cannot be overestimated and the role it will play in the new electricity supply industry will be as important as that played by the old CEB.

The "kit" it inherits includes a range of coal, oil, gas, wind and hydro power stations spread across the country. Last year, these produced £4 billion worth of power. Its coal stations are among the largest in the world, and in the past year five of the seven large-scale, coal-fired power stations in the National Power portfolio broke their own record output levels. The stations will be backed by a network of engineering workshops, research laboratories and a team of scientists conducting research into power production from wind, waves and the sun.

Few serious scientific conferences and seminars in the world do not include in their programme papers and presentations from



The centre of power: the turbine hall at the Drax station now in the hands of National Power, the larger of the companies succeeding the CEB

men and women working in National Power laboratories and power stations.

Although it has inherited some continuity from its parent, the CEB, National Power will be vastly different.

The CEB was probably the best power-generating company of its type in the world. It kept the lights on despite the year-long coal dispute. Its scientific reputation is second to none, but it has worked within safe limits. Those limits have changed for the better and National Power is preparing to meet any new challenges.

The speed with which it has responded to its loss of the nuclear network is a clear indication of how it is moving. National Power has applied for two large gas-fired power stations on Humberside and on the Cambridgeshire border and has already earmarked several other sites for similar power stations. These will be comparatively cheap and quick to build, cheap to run and environmentally "friendly".

The fact that its salesmen secured 23 firm contracts for direct sales of power before the March 2 deadline is also testimony to the aggressive way it

will switch from being the inheritor of a monopoly position to a true market-place competitor.

It has warned any generating company thinking about entering the market that it will not easily give up its share.

The contracts, which take effect on April 1, are worth about £200 million. They cover a total of 160 sites, including 13 multi-site contracts, and with loads ranging from one megawatt to 150 megawatts and covering periods from one year to three years. However, the process has not been painless.

Staff have had to be relocated and the decision to leave the nuclear network in the state sector meant some plans for privatization had to be revised.

John Baker, National Power's chief executive, says: "I recognize that the past year has been difficult, but I am sure we can face the coming year with confidence."

"Our job is to manage our power stations efficiently and effectively to provide customers with reliable supplies of electricity and good value for money. I have no doubts we will be able to achieve these objectives."

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## Custom built for success in a tough market-place

ALISTAIR DUNN

**P**owerGen, the smaller of the two generators to be vested at the end of the month, has introduced a new word to the vocabulary of the energy business: orimulsion.

It has shown an appreciation of the advantages of a strong corporate identity by becoming the first company to sponsor a national television weather map. And it is the first generator to win planning consent for what will be the first of a new breed of highly efficient and environmentally friendly large-scale gas-fired power stations.

It has formed a gas-pipeline company and is now testing what will be the country's largest wind generator, at Richborough, Yorkshire.

Since PowerGen was created by the Act to privatize the electricity supply industry, it has been seeking new opportunities, carving out new markets and behaving like the aggressive private-sector company for which the Government had hoped.

Its decision to become the first power generator in the world to carry out generation trials with orimulsion is typical of the company's approach, led by a chairman from outside the industry who is willing to back the judgement of engineers and scientists he has inherited.

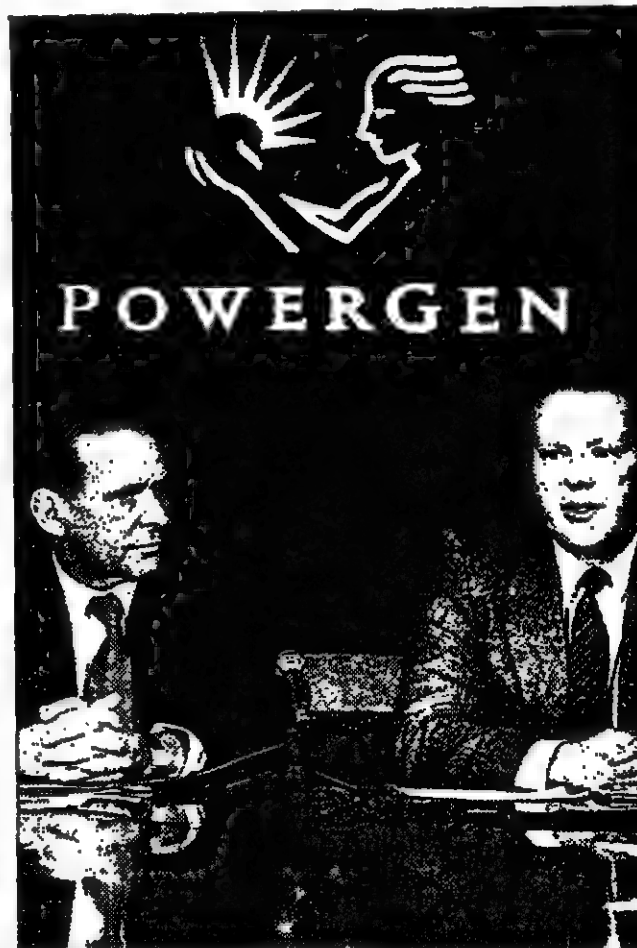
Orimulsion is a new fuel developed by Bitor, a subsidiary of the Venezuelan state oil company, in conjunction with BP.

It is a blend of 70 per cent heavy bitumen oil, which Venezuela has in abundance, and 30 per cent water. The secret is in the way it is emulsified so that hydrocarbons remain in suspension and can be pumped directly into the furnaces of existing power stations once the burners have been modified.

If orimulsion is a success, PowerGen will have gained for itself first access to a new fuel that can undercut conventional heavy fuel oil on cost and which will also be cheaper than coal.

Initial results of trials on Merseyside have been encouraging, and further tests are now being carried out and will be evaluated. A million tons of orimulsion will be burned during 1991 alone.

PowerGen became the first generator to win a direct sale contract for power with a large industrial user when it won a £50 million contract to provide infrastructure and power for a 10-year period for the planned Toyota car factory in Derbyshire. PowerGen will provide Toyota with 40 megawatts of power and will build a sub-station and a half-mile link to the National Grid. The winning of the contract has



PowerGen men at the top: Ed Wallis (left) and Robert Malpas

been a considerable coup, both in terms of earnings and prestige, for PowerGen. The company has also become the first generator to enter into a joint venture to build its own pipeline to carry natural gas from the North Sea terminal in Lincolnshire to its new gas-fired combined-cycle power station at Killingholme, Humberside.

It has formed a joint company with Conoco to build and operate the 50km pipeline and is considering using the pipeline to offer gas supplies directly from the Conoco North Sea fields to industrial users on Humberside, the North-west and in the Midlands, many of which will be customers for power from the PowerGen network of stations.

Ed Wallis, PowerGen's chief executive—the company is chaired by Robert Malpas, formerly a main board director of BP—says: "Competition has already arrived on the UK electricity scene, and there is a strong determination to ensure it is developed to its full potential."

"Don't be fooled by the cynics who say it will never happen. Privatization has already unleashed competitive forces, which are sweeping through every aspect of our business."

"There really is no going back now. The past months

have seen radical changes in the dynamics of the industry. We are all well on the way to creating a commodity market in electricity, and at PowerGen we have custom-built our new company to succeed in that market."

"We believe there are some clear advantages in being a business fresh off the drawing board—a company custom-built for the new market-place of the 1990s, one that has as its aim to be the lowest-cost producer of electricity, and which, after flotation, will be one of the largest privately owned generating companies in the world."

"We have the experience... to instil confidence in those we supply. We have that paradoxical advantage of proven capability demonstrated in years of generation experience allied to the flexibility and enthusiasm of making a fresh start."

"We have also had a golden opportunity to build PowerGen from scratch in terms of getting our organizational structure right for the task that is in hand."

"Our management structure has been designed to eliminate unnecessary intermediate layers, to ensure short lines of communication and to promote high levels of individual responsibility."

"Motivation is high and there is a common will to make PowerGen a winner."





## FOCUS

ELECTRICITY  
PRIVATIZATION/3

## The big shares switch-on

You will soon be asked to invest in the industry, along with its employees. David Young looks at what it will mean to consumers

Within a year, both you and the meter reader could be shareholders in your local area electricity board — the meter reader through generous employee share schemes and you, the customer, through a loyalty bonus scheme. Employees will be able to set aside an amount each month through a company share-buying scheme in conjunction with a local building society.

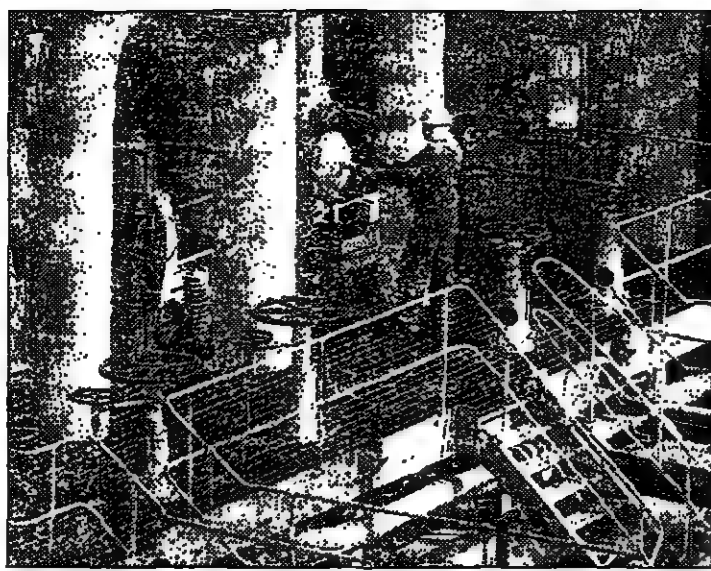
By then, it will no longer be called an area electricity board, but it will probably be the biggest company in your area. Unless you oppose privatization, it will be difficult to ignore sales pressure put on you to become a shareholder.

The prospect of privatization at the end of this month has resulted in remarkable change in most of the area electricity boards. Some have changed names and adopted new logos — the new word for trademarks. Along with that, they have adopted a new attitude.

The prospect of privatization has made the people running the electricity business more aware of their customers and their own abilities, and in most cases the staff of the area boards have become more aware of the real advantages they have. The close links staff have with their customers is no longer taken for granted, but is seen as something to be built on.

Some area boards are better equipped than others to make the change but, in most cases, that is only in terms of the customer profile.

The differences in attitude and



Ownership change: turbine hall at Ratcliffe on Soar, Nottinghamshire

approach between boards has become blurred in the past year.

The best are still better, but the gap has narrowed. Each will set out its stall during the coming months to attract investors and, if the experience of the water companies is anything to go by, the flotations will be a resounding stock market success.

In the medium to long term, however, the 12 boards must develop their own character.

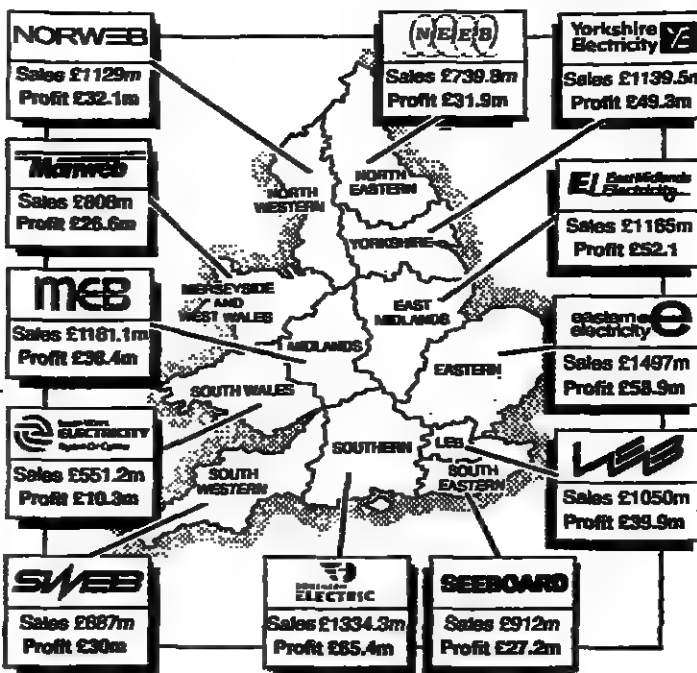
Some will be active in promoting electricity for industry, others will promote energy efficiency and others will be diversifying out of pure power supply into other areas where they can use their cable

networks, their retail networks and their considerable data bases to improve their profitability.

In the last financial year, the 12 boards increased their turnover by £1 billion to £12.2 billion, despite facing the second successive mild winter — the past winter will have done little to improve these figures — although profits rose from £290 million to £424 million.

Bryan Weston, chairman of Manweb, the company that serves Merseyside and North Wales, said that each of the boards was an individual business, and they could not be expected to perform identically.

However, he said: "They are all sizeable businesses in their own



Up for sale: the power companies, shown with their financial results

right. The smallest has a turnover larger than the Rugby Group and the largest a turnover as big as the Granada Group.

Bryan Townsend, chairman of Midlands Electricity, said: "Under the new structure, we will be able to buy our electricity from a number of suppliers, negotiate our own contracts and generate a limited amount of our own requirements."

"We will be free to contract for the majority of our present and future capacity with whichever generator offers the best terms. This change in direction is one of

the most radical moves in the whole privatization programme, marking a shift away from a centralized producer dominated industry to one which is customer-led."

Each of the boards has changed dramatically in the past year.

Wynford Evans, chairman of South Wales Electricity, said: "We will, as distribution companies, continue to be accountable to our customers as well as to shareholders — two groups in which we expect a considerable overlap."

"We have embarked on an extensive programme of restructuring to make sure that we meet the needs of both."

## Will electricity be a good investment?

The flotation prices for electricity privatization will not be known until late November 1990 for the area electricity boards, February 1991 for the two generating companies in England and Wales and probably May 1991 for the Scottish industry.

Clearly, it would be nice to get the price just right. By then, we will be close to the next election, and the Government will not want to face accusations that once again the family's silver has been sold off too cheaply. On the other hand, too high a price will mean the Government ends up with egg on its face and the electricity industry still in its hands.

The aim should be to give investors a long-term return commensurate with the risks involved in the industry. But what are the risks?

Under normal circumstances, market forces affect business performance, and this can be thoroughly analyzed. However, the transformation of a public monopoly to a fully competitive business involves considerable dislocation that is not open to analysis. The Government has partly addressed this problem by controlling competition in the early years. But this overnight shift has not occurred with any other privatization.

Competition aside, there is still a plethora of other uncertainties; for example, the issue of energy conservation and efficiency. This has so far evaded the grasp of Government, although lip service has been paid to it in both the Electricity Act and the electricity licences.

Raising public, commercial and industrial awareness of these issues could cut electricity demand and reduce the environmental effects of electricity generation.



Wilson: rewards will reflect risks

But the cost of large-scale conservation cannot be passed to the consumer in the form of higher prices, even if the overall bill is reduced. Turn off lights and we may see share prices fall.

In the long term, however, energy conservation is likely to benefit the electricity industry, providing environmentally benign forms of generation — such as wave or wind energy — become available on a large scale.

Apart from business risks, there are political risks. If Labour wins the next election, it is unlikely to re-nationalize the industry, but it may impose very strict regulations, which may involve dividend control.

So the electricity industry faces considerable risk. If the Government appreciates this and prices the issue to give a return to investors commensurate with the risks involved, the electricity industry will prove a worthwhile investment.

John Wilson

● The author is an electricity analyst with UBS Phillips & Drew

## Battle for the National Grid

The first big battle fought and won by the Government when it announced plans to privatize the electricity supply industry was over ownership of the national grid.

The decision to take the grid out of the hands of the generating side of the industry and place it under the ownership of the distribution companies was considered the key to creating competition within the industry.

It was a decision which still causes debate, but the industry now accepts that the national grid, an asset with a history going back more than 50 years, will be owned by a company which will link the wholesale and retail sectors.

David Jeffries, the chairman of the National Grid Company, was formerly head of the London Electricity Board and, until recently, deputy chairman of the Electricity Council. He says the new National Grid Company has a leading role in deciding where future power-station developments will take place.

The company will also provide its own generating capacity from a pumped storage system in Snowdonia and will be able to meet emergencies or sell surplus power through its cross-channel link. The National Grid Company will offer generators access to the market and users access to supply. It will establish and conduct the "spot market" by operating and maintaining a pooling system through which generators will be able to bid prices in advance.

It will direct power in an order related to the lowest offer price available, subject to practical considerations. The company will also oversee how payments are collected in the spot market. It will be a substantial company with more than 6,000 employees, 35 per cent of them technical and engineering staff.

Although owned by the 12 area distribution companies, the National Grid Company will have a degree of independence and will operate impartially. It must also respect the

confidentiality of trading arrangements and other commercially sensitive information obtained from users so that no one gains an unfair advantage.

John Utley, financial director of the National Grid Company, says: "The electricity industry in England and Wales will be characterized by contractual agreements between the various parties in the new industry."

"Of course, contracts alone do not keep the lights on; it is the performance of the parties to the contracts. The right and necessary contracts have to be struck in the first place. That requires a proper market place for electricity trading, which, like any other market, requires good information by all parties, including newcomers, so that they can make the best deals."

"The National Grid Company will be, perhaps, in the best position of all to provide information to help this process work."

"In effect, NGC's 'wires', taken together with the

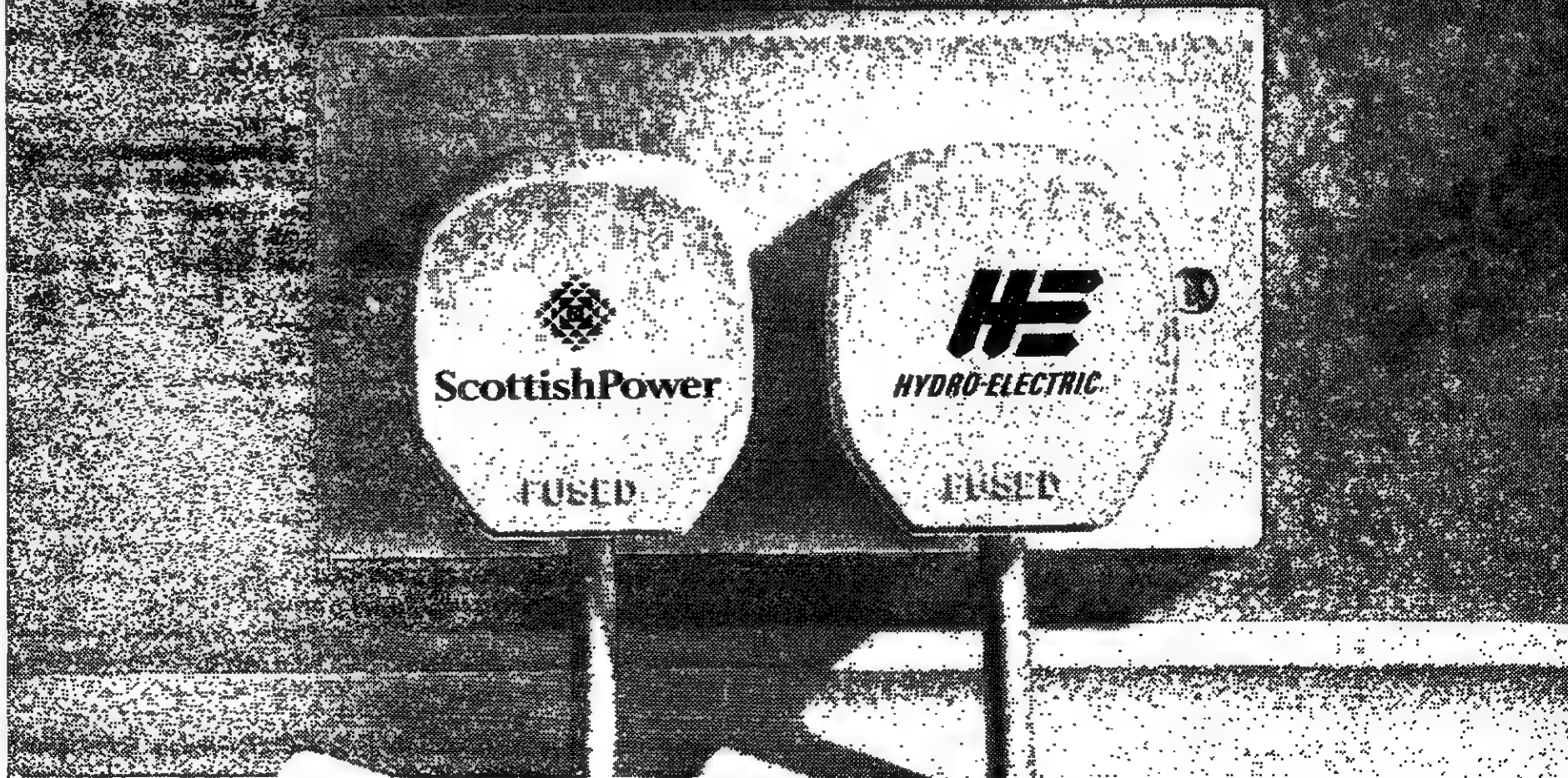
innovative financial systems that we will be running — such as the settlement system — can be described as a package for the creation of an electricity exchange market. In time, the electricity exchange could become as sophisticated as today's commodities markets are. The philosophy underlying the grid code is that it must be clear to all players in the new industry how things will work on a daily basis and in all circumstances. "All players and potential players in future will be looking for ways of performing and being profitable. They will also expect the National Grid Company to be setting standards for efficient performance and reliability."

"The electricity industry has a reputation for solid engineering. We must not lose that, but we must gain a reputation for facilitating the creation of a commercial market. To be believed in, we must be seen as efficient — running a large outfit profitably and well."

David Young



In control: the National Grid Company will sell surplus power

Trust  
the Scots to be  
different.

ScottishPower and Hydro-Electric, the new Scottish electricity companies, generate, distribute and sell electricity — all the way from the power station to the plug point.

Scottish Electricity — an industry with a difference.

How so?

Well, in addition to integrated production and supply we're quite distinct in other ways too.

We have the capacity to export electricity south of the

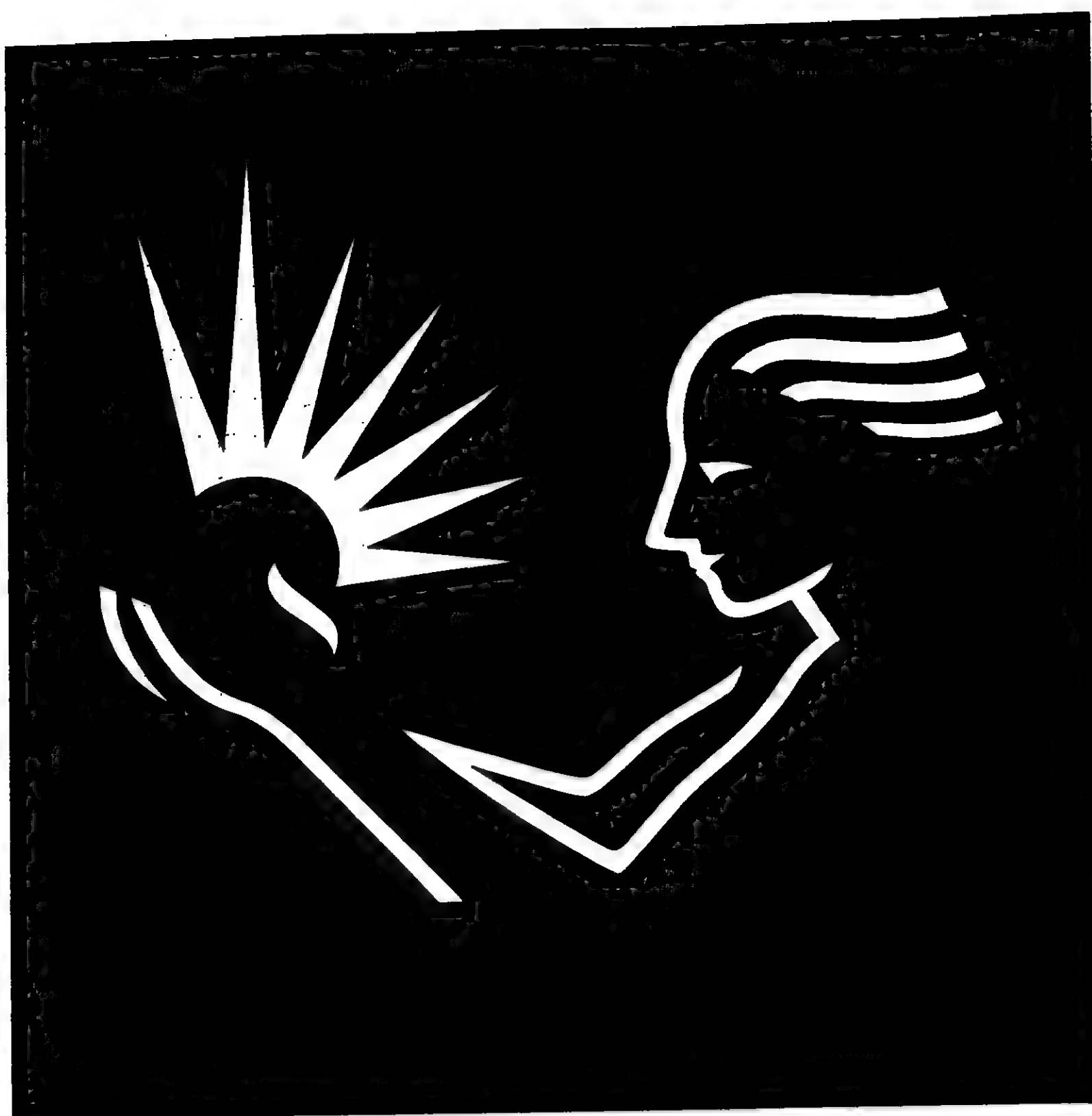
border every day of every week. 52 weeks a year. Yet still cater fully for Scotland's needs.

Our Scottish engineering and management skills are recognised throughout the industry and beyond.

And our diverse range of fuels — hydro, coal, oil, gas and access to nuclear — means that we're not reliant on any one source.

All things considered, at ScottishPower and Hydro-Electric, we have a great deal going for us. As time will tell.





# THE FUTURE GENERATION.

Although still in its infancy, PowerGen already produces nearly a third of the electricity for England and Wales.

However, we are also looking to the future to help shape a new kind of power industry.

For example, we've just started to build a new energy efficient power station at Killingholme, South Humberside.

We've also agreed to purchase the entire output of

a North Sea gas field, Pickerill.

In August of 1989, we started work on a new technology centre at Ratcliffe, Nottinghamshire.

Above all, through the use of innovative ideas, we're looking at new ways of producing safe and efficient energy for the future. Not just for us but for our children and our children's children.

## POWERGEN



## FOCUS

ELECTRICITY  
PRIVATIZATION/5

## The wheels of fortune

Competition in the electricity supply industry has been maintained, despite a spate of mergers and co-operative agreements. The shelving of large projects has not resulted in a shortage of work.

Two factors have affected demand. The Government has decided not to proceed with more nuclear power stations and generating companies have dropped the idea of building more large coal-fired stations.

The decisions have already cost jobs. GEC-Alsthom has retrenched 210 employees at Larnie and 20 employees in a design office in Manchester. GEC had hoped to win orders for turbine generators and heat exchangers in three new nuclear power stations. A further loss was the cancellation of plans for three coal-fired stations. GEC-Alsthom had won equipment design contracts for all three. The cancellations are a blow to British companies facing increasing foreign competition. Equipment for big power stations in the UK has been supplied in the past by British companies, such as GEC, NEI and Babcock.

The result of the change in policy will be the refurbishing of existing power stations and the building of smaller, gas-fired plants. NEI believes the coal and nuclear programmes have been shelved, rather than scrapped, but

## Bigger companies will build smaller power stations in the 1990s, says Rodney Hobson

it is among companies already cashing in on the refurbishing programme. This involves fitting more efficient blades to existing turbines and nitrogen oxide burners to boilers to curb pollution. GEC and Babcock, the boiler-maker, are also involved in the refurbishing programme.

"Existing stations will have to work much harder to produce the same amount of electricity," says Sash Tusa, an analyst at the stock-broking firm Flemings, says.

The future, at least in the short-term, lies with gas-powered, combined-cycle stations. Combined cycle uses heat from gas turbines to drive steam turbines with, typically, two gas turbines to one steam.

A module of three turbines is likely to generate 350 megawatts, compared with 900 megawatts from a single unit proposed in one of the shelved coal-fired stations.

Gas turbines are expensive to run unless they are in constant operation. That means lining up supplies of gas and pre-selling the electricity.

Three new gas power stations have been announced. PowerGen, the smaller of the two generating companies being spun off from the

Central Electricity Generating Board, will build one at Killingholme, south Humberside; ICI will construct one on Teesside; and Asea Brown Boveri, the Swedish-Swiss combine, will erect the third for Lakeland Power.

There have been dramatic changes among power station builders. Fiercely independent companies operating within national boundaries have disappeared or set up joint ventures.

GEC joined Alsthom in 1988, and the Anglo-French power engineering group this year brought in the enormous US company, GE, which is seeking a powerful role in Europe, to form the European Gas Turbine Company. GE dominates the world gas-turbine industry and has taken a 10 per cent stake in the European venture.

It has a workforce of almost 4,000 people, split between Britain and France, and its operations will include heavy-duty gas turbines manufactured at two Alsthom plants in France.

NEI was taken over by Rolls-Royce last year after earlier merger talks failed. The combined group set up a joint venture, NEI ABB Gas Turbines, at the end of last

year with ABB, itself formed by Asea and Brown Boveri.

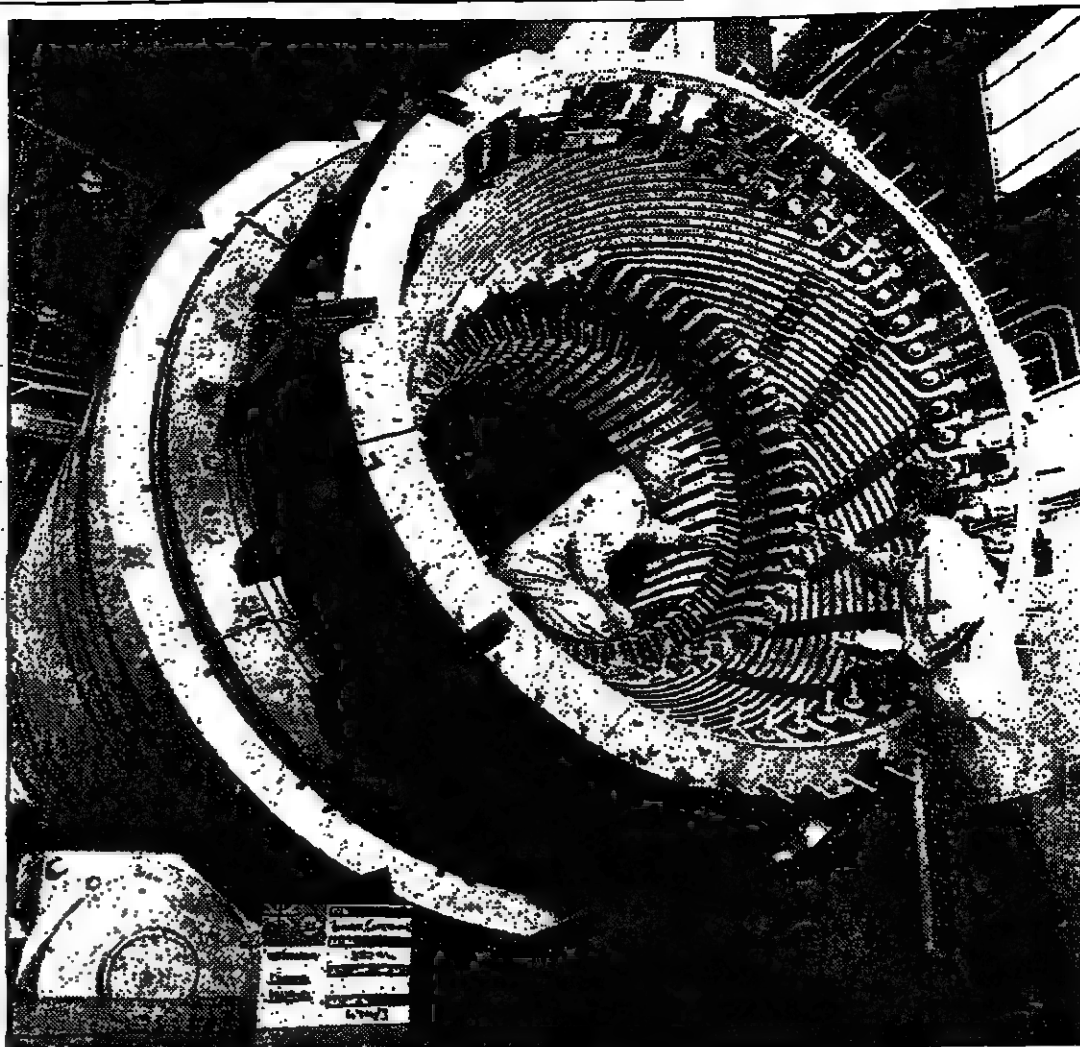
So far, Siemens, of West Germany, has preferred to stand alone while Mitsubishi of Japan, which sells gas turbines to NEI, has refrained from entering the European market directly.

Among the losers is the Italian power industry, which has been divided up along with Belgium's main equipment supplier. The influence of AEG and Westinghouse, second-placed in Germany and the US respectively, have waned in the face of competition from the market leaders in their own countries. Independent suppliers in Norway and Finland have been absorbed.

Reasons for the rationalization include a fall in world export markets, rapidly rising costs of developing new equipment, the growing importance of gas turbines and the approach of the single European market.

First blood in the British market has gone to Siemens, which beat three British tenders for the £300 million contract to build a gas-fired power station at Killingholme. GEC, NEI and John Brown, part of the Trafalgar House group, were beaten on price.

National Power, the larger generating company, has invited tenders for several sites, including another at Killingholme, but no decision has yet been taken.



Inside story: NEI Parsons' generator stator is destined for the Lamma Island power station in Hong Kong

## Public role for private sector

In the 30 years since the Electricity Council, the industry watchdog, was established, the number of electricity consumers has risen by 50 per cent, sales have more than doubled, output has trebled and productivity increased fourfold.

Next week, the Electricity Council, under the privatization proposals, will no longer exist. In its place will be the Electricity Association, a trade organization short of its statutory powers to oversee investment plans, scrutinize pro-

competition. Seven winners in the 1987 competition had some Capenhurst involvement. The Century Aluminium Company, for example, produces aluminium extrusions for the building and leisure industries. Century turned to a multi-layer, coil-induction heating system developed at the Research Centre. The change to a multi-layer system yielded a 22 per cent energy saving.

About 350 association staff will be based at Capenhurst. They will carry out research for the industry as a whole and also, it is hoped, develop individual company contract work. The association's chief executive is Roger Farrance.

A lot of work has gone into anticipating future needs, but the association is trying to be flexible in its approach to meet unforeseen demands.

The association will be governed by a management board made up of directors nominated by each full member company. As well as electing the association's president and vice-president, the board will determine policy and nominate, from among its members, directors responsible for major policy areas.



In charge: Roger Farrance poses for tariff increases and protect consumer rights. These will pass to the new Office of Electricity Regulation.

But the Electricity Association, with a staff of 800, will have an important role to play in the development of the electricity supply industry in the private sector. It will provide a forum for members to discuss matters of common interest, supply a collective voice for the industry and specialist research and professional services for member companies.

Those members will include all the generating companies and distribution companies in the United Kingdom, plus Nuclear Electric and Scottish Nuclear, which will remain in the public sector. Discussions on associate membership are taking place with the Republic of Ireland's Electricity Supply Board and the supply boards of Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man. Associate mem-



Research head: David Morris

Lead directors appointed so far are John Baker, the association's vice-president and chief executive of National Power, who will be responsible for European Community and overseas affairs; Henry Casley, managing director of Southern Electric, responsible for business development support; David Morris, chairman of Northern Electric, in charge of research and development; and James Porteous, chairman of Yorkshire Electricity, who oversees health and safety.

The association's four service divisions — public affairs and administration, business services, employee relations, and the Research and Development Centre at Capenhurst — will provide professional services to member companies.

The largest of the London-based divisions, business services, will handle a wide range of activities, including engineering services, safety,



Support role: Henry Casley

bership will also be open to independent generators. The Electricity Association will be responsible for pensions within the industry, health and safety and industrial relations. National pay bargaining may be one of the casualties of privatization — company pay structures are likely to head the agenda when the industry settles down.

But the association will represent members when the interests of the industry are involved.

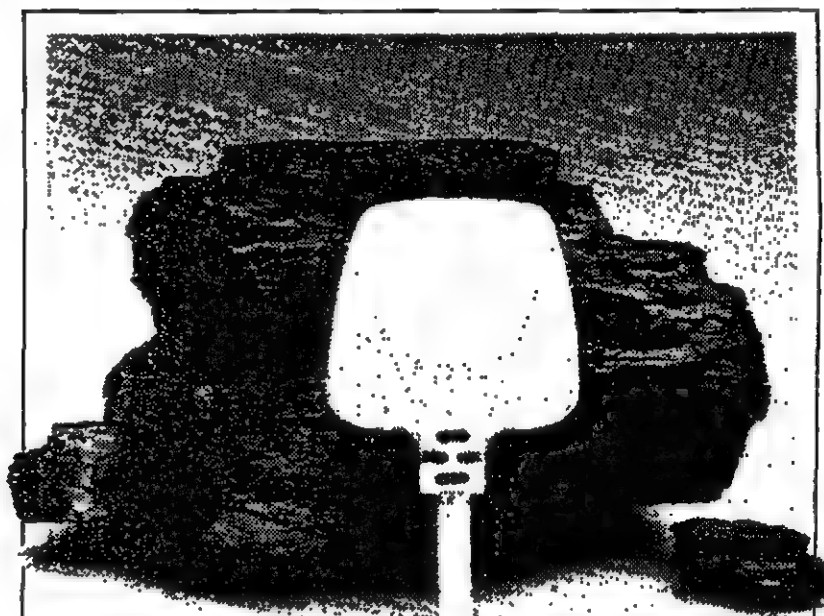
The Research and Development Centre at Capenhurst, near Chester in Cheshire, which develops improved methods of electricity use and distribution, also comes under the association's wing. The work at Capenhurst has had a long and successful association with the Power for Efficiency and Productivity



Safety task: James Porteous

commercial and economic reporting and load research. It will also provide technical support for members.

Michael Hatfield

CLEAN LIVING  
FROM COAL.

IT LIGHTS UP YOUR DAY.

IT MAKES YOUR MORNING TEA.

IT COOKS YOUR BREAKFAST.

IT WASHES YOUR CLOTHES.

IT RUNS YOUR COMPUTER.

IT CHILLS YOUR DRINK.

IT TURNS ON YOUR TV.

We turn on the lights. We make the toast, boil a kettle or watch TV. Each day and night we have instant, invisible power at our fingertips. We hardly think about it.

And if we take electricity for granted, do we ever think at all about the fuel that provides most of it?

Maybe we should.

You'd be surprised just how much cleaner coal burning is today.

The latest coal-fired power stations throughout the world aren't just more efficient, they can eliminate 90% of sulphur emissions. An extensive programme of installing this technology (called flue gas desulphurisation) in British power stations has now started.

World-wide, coal-fired power stations contribute only about 7% to greenhouse gases, while generating at least 40% of the world's electricity supply (both figures are from OECD statistics).

In Britain coal produces over three quarters of our electricity.

Advances in combustion technology are impressive, promising us 20% more electricity from the same amount of coal, reducing emissions still further.

The recent interim deal with the generators means British Coal will absorb all normal inflation, continuing to cut the real cost of coal to power stations over the next three years. Looking further ahead, long term contracts between British Coal and the electricity industry would guarantee prices well into the future.

All of which means that modern coal will be able to generate electricity safely, cheaply and more cleanly for years to come.

For more information write to British Coal Marketing Department, Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London, SW1X 7AE, or ring 01-235 2020.

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الطاقة النظيفة





# ELECTRICITY PRIVATIZATION/6

## FOCUS

# Why coal is still king

Michael Hatfield  
reports on  
developments to  
reduce sulphur  
dioxide emissions

**T**he fight to control air pollution and the future of independent electricity producers have been thrown into doubt by privatization of the electricity industry. Mine workers believe that the future of the coal industry could be called into question.

These concerns are being expressed privately by British Coal's management and publicly by independent producers as John Wakeham, the Secretary of State for Energy, struggles to meet the timetable for privatization.

At issue for the coal industry is the planned installation at large power stations of flue-gas desulphurization equipment — which scrubs acid rain gases from oil and coal combustion — to reduce sulphur dioxide emissions.

Mr Wakeham has told the Commons that the Government will meet the EC's directive to reduce sulphur emissions by 60 per cent by 2003 "in the most sensible and practical manner".

This could mean greater use of imported low-sulphur coal and natural gas in power stations, which would reduce sulphur dioxide emissions, help control emissions of carbon dioxide and reduce global warming.

But Sir Robert Haslam, chairman of British Coal, believes the use of imported low-sulphur coal is not a realistic long-term option. He says low-sulphur coal is expensive because of its popularity in the United States.

Sir Robert says flue-gas desulphurization (FGD) offers the flexibility needed to use Britain's power stations and coal reserves to their greatest advantage without compromising the energy industry's commitment to a cleaner environment. A plant is already being installed at Drax Power Station, but that is only one-third of the £1.5 billion FGD programme planned to meet the Government's 60 per cent target.

The coal industry believes it could be the victim of a short-term outlook on the part of the Government. Roy Lynk, president of the Midlands-based Union of Democratic Mineworkers, has urged the Government to press ahead with FGD installation at up to six coal-fired power stations.

He has warned that jobs could



Two faces: Sir Robert Haslam, British Coal chairman, above, and at Daw Mill Colliery, near Coventry, below



be at risk and Britain could be held to ransom because of scarce low-sulphur coal supplies if FGD plants are not installed quickly.

"Imports of low-sulphur coal can only buy a little time — they cannot solve the long-term problem," he says.

A similar point is made by John Meads, general secretary of the British Association of Colliery Management. "There is no guarantee that low-sulphur coal will be readily available on the world markets by the mid-Nineties at reasonable prices," he says.

The Coal Board is ready to build its own power station, at Bilsthorpe Colliery, Nottinghamshire, in conjunction with the East Midlands Electricity Board. Re-

suits of a study into the £100-million project are expected within two months.

The Coal Board believes the project will benefit consumers and the environment. Costs will be reduced because there will be no transportation involved, meaning cheaper electricity. The station will use modern fluidized-bed technology, which almost ends sulphur dioxide emissions.

Sir Robert says the solution to enormous and uneven economic dislocation lies in cleaner and more efficient use of coal in power stations, not only in the UK, but world-wide.

If the efficiency with which British Coal can be used is not maximized, it will lose business to

forces which are more efficient and easier to handle.

A "topping cycle" with fluidized combustion being developed at Grimethorpe in Yorkshire — a £26-million project funded by private and public money — promises to be 20 per cent more efficient than conventional technology. Equally importantly, it will reduce carbon monoxide emissions significantly.

**B**ut the future of independent producers is far from certain. "Privatization was supposed to bring about greater competition, but this has been sacrificed by the politicians' sole objective of getting the industry floated," says Stephen Andrews, director of the Association of Independent Electricity Producers.

Rather than "freeing up" the market, independent producers say severe restrictions are being placed on their operations during the transition period. They are obliged to sell electricity at a higher price than the large generating companies. Moreover, Mr Andrews says, "horse trading" by the electricity boards has given them exclusive rights over industrial and commercial sites of up to one megawatt, and resulted in National Power and PowerGen being given long-term contracts.

"In itself, this does not spell the end for independent power, but it is ironic that the boards, which had massive advantages over independents, should have sought special privileges of this kind."

## Privatization means big business for mains cable makers

**C**ompetition among electricity generating companies offers expanding business prospects for mains cable makers. Opinions are divided, however, on whether the future will be quite so rosy for British companies as they would wish.

Bill Watson, director of engineering at Eastern Electricity, explains that the demand for cables will depend on four factors.

He believes that one positive aspect of privatization will be the resulting competition. He says: "New entrants to power generation will mean greater competition and the combined cycle plants will bring greater efficiency, so there is scope for optimism."

A negative factor is the new provisions allowing companies outside the electricity industry to generate power for their own use. Although that would create some demand for low-voltage cables, the distances involved would be very short and not enough to compensate for resulting cuts in demand from area electricity boards.

The two imponderables are how the national economy will perform and the extent to which deregulation in Europe will encourage competition from imports, which, at present, add up to no more than 15 per cent of the supply of mains cables in Britain.

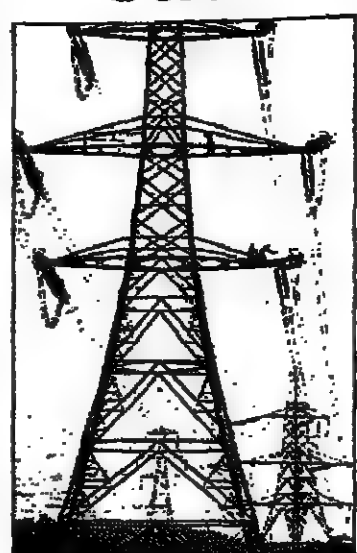
Market leader BICC has no doubts that the future is exciting. "Business is likely to increase as all boards will be looking at refurbishing their systems," Mary Gallagher, a BICC spokeswoman, says.

Rival Delta, the cable making firm, agrees. "Sales to area boards have held up very well and are likely to for some time," says press officer Alexandra Hickenbush.

Sash Tusa, an analyst with Flemings, is a self-confessed cynic when it comes to post privatization spending. He says: "There has been an awful lot of hype about privatization. There seems to be a lot of pre-privatization spending and that has been good for cable companies but it may not extend beyond privatization."

He points out that British Gas and British Telecom were not inclined to spend taxpayers'

## Links to the new power base



Cables: exciting prospects ahead

money rather than that of shareholders and adds: "Spending volumes are very high this year. It is hard to see why they should be higher next year when companies have got to choose between laying cables and paying higher dividends."

Mr Tusa says that some cable makers who have had a cosy relationship with the old Central Electricity Generating Board and the area distribution boards could be in for a shock. The market has been virtually free from competition from imports and some makers could be in for a tough time.

He cites Pirelli, working on poor profit margins, as most likely to suffer. In contrast, BICC is better placed with some good long-term contracts.

BICC has, in fact, sought to secure its position further by

buying Sterling Greengate, a purchase that has run into trouble on the monopolies front.

Sterling, a UK cable maker, cost £38.2 million to acquire from a US electronics group in December. It makes armoured cables and elastomeric ones that are sheathed in rubber and are used in difficult environments where flexibility is important.

The merger gives BICC about 33 per cent of the £185 million mains cables market in the UK, taking the market lead away from Delta, a point not lost on the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Ridley, who this month referred the acquisition to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The UK's area electricity boards, unlike their counterparts on the Continent, prefer to use the more expensive and more robust aluminium-armoured cables made by UK companies.

The Commission is also likely to look at BICC's 25 per cent share of the £70 million PVC-armoured cable market and its 33 per cent share of the UK market in elastomeric cables.

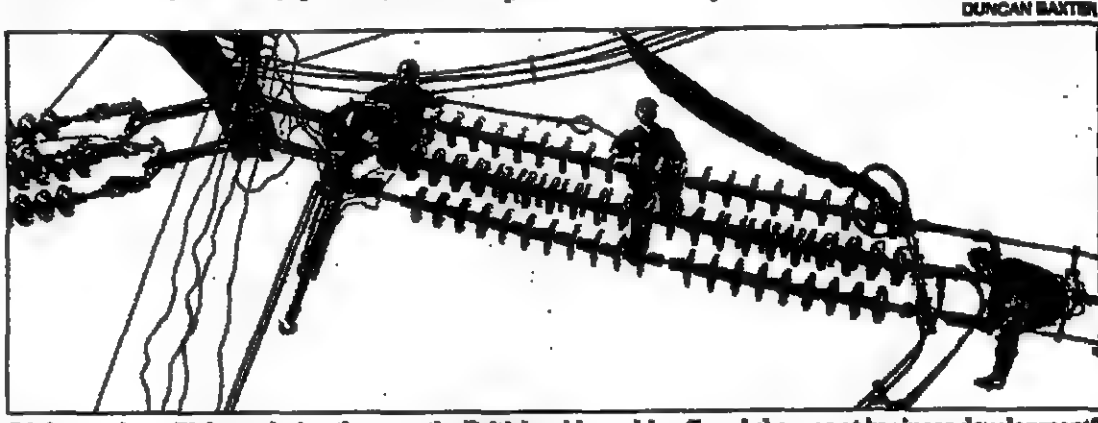
Among analysts, Mr Sandy Morris of County NatWest puts the optimistic view. He sees BIC as benefiting from increased demand for high tension cables and BICC and Delta gaining in low voltage cables.

He says: "There has been talk for some time of a £100 million programme to strengthen the national grid. If power stations in the North and Midlands can transmit to the South it would make what is already there more efficient and save building more power stations."

In addition, the removal of capital spending limits post-privatization will free up area electricity boards and increase the demand for cables.

Mr Morris believes that domestic cable makers have little to fear from foreign competition. He says: "BICC and Delta are two of the lowest cost producers in the world and the weakness of sterling makes it even more difficult for competitors to break in."

Rodney Hobson  
DUNCAN BAILEY



Lining up: but will deregulation threaten the British cable-making firms' chances at business development?

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## FOCUS

ELECTRICITY  
PRIVATIZATION/7

## Trying to catch the wind

For a nation buffeted by waves and winds, Britain still treats alternative sources of energy as the Cinderella of the electricity industry.

Privatization will enhance the prospects for renewable energy sources, says Jean Ross, a Department of Energy spokeswoman. The department has indicated that a minimum amount of energy will have to be generated from renewable resources, although the precise percentage has not yet been set. However, the department hopes that alternative energy sources will provide 600 megawatts by the year 2000.

Ross rejects suggestions that the Government has failed to fund research into alternative energy sources and points out that £145 million has been spent in the past 12 years, with a further £50 million earmarked for the next three years. "There is an ongoing commitment, but you have to bear in mind that there has to be different spending on research into different technologies. Nuclear power was obviously going to cost more. In the early stages, it was not known which renewable resource was the most promising, so we undertook research across the board."

The department has received 300 applications from would-be power-generating companies. Projects must be approved by the department before being put to local electricity boards.

Most proposals involve wind power and fuels produced from waste. However, the biggest is for a tidal barrage across the Mersey, backed by a consortium of more than 20 companies, which will

**Alternative energy advocates are fighting an uphill battle in Britain. But private companies, eager to cash in on power, may change all that**

generate 700 megawatts. The Mersey Barrage Company, which wants to begin construction in three to four years' time, says the scheme will cost £880 million. It is expected to save 750,000 tons of coal a year and generate 20 per cent of the nation's electricity requirements.

Yet wave power is already a reality in Britain. A power station on the south-west coast of Islay will start operation this year and is expected to show that wave power can be as cheap as hydro-electricity. The project, supported by the Department of Energy, will be used to test components to be used in the development of larger installations which could feed the National Grid. It will provide enough electricity for a village of 4,000 people.

However, it is wind power that tops the Department of Energy's (DoE) list of promising sources of renewable power. Government, private industry, the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) and the area boards spent about £10.5 million this year on research, development and build-

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ANNUAL EXPENDITURE ON RENEWABLE ENERGY R&D PROGRAMMES (£m)

PROGRAMME	1979/80	1980/81	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1987/88	1988/89
Solar (Active & Passive)	0.2	1.2	0.8	0.7	1.4	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.1
Biofuels	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.4
Wind	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	3.9
Tidal	0.0	0.8	1.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.4
Wave	1.8	3.0	3.5	4.4	3.1	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.2
Geothermal Hot Dry Rocks	0.0	0.0	0.5	5.6	3.9	2.9	4.6	3.5	3.5	3.5
Geothermal Aquifers	0.2	1.3	1.7	2.6	1.5	1.9	1.1	0.5	0.1	0.0
Hydro & General Studies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.8
Production & Technology Transfer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.7
Others	1.1	1.4	2.2	2.3	2.0	1.9	2.1	2.0	2.3	2.5
TOTAL	3.6	8.2	11.2	17.2	14.2	11.3	14.0	12.7	11.8	16.0

ing, and the figure is expected to rise to £18 million this year. Some funding has come from the European Commission.

Electricity production from 14 turbines around the country is between five and 10 megawatts a year, depending on weather conditions, CEGB officials calculate. By 2000 to 2005, wind power is expected to supply one per cent of the country's energy needs, or the equivalent of a million tons of coal. However, official studies indicate that if all the sites capable of generating wind power in the UK were harnessed both on and offshore, this source of power could supply 20 per cent of the country's electricity demands in 30 years.

Experts believe that if environmental concerns were shelved and wind turbines could be built in National Parks and marine nature reserves, then its potential would rise even further.

The DoE is spending £1.5 million this year on research and development of solar energy.

The Government believes heat and light from the sun offer some

of the best options for harnessing renewable resources, although studies in the 1970s convinced the DoE that photovoltaics, the direct conversion of sunlight into electricity, would be uneconomic in Britain in the foreseeable future. However, costs would have to fall to dramatically to make solar cells and solar panels cost-effective, compared with other generation systems.

Most scientists working in the field are now concentrating on passive solar, where the sun's energy is absorbed on cold days, but rejected on warm days. It is the subject of several projects at polytechnics, universities and Government research centres across the UK. Passive solar heating has recently been installed at student residences at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, housing projects in Milton Keynes, offices at Basingstoke and a new school at Netley in Hampshire.

The technology works even on cloudy days and, by harnessing computers to control features such as window blinds and to calculate local weather conditions,

further savings can be made.

Energy consumption in buildings accounts for 45 per cent of primary energy used in Britain and costs £13,000 million. The DoE is convinced that the wide-scale use of passive solar in the building industry could cut this figure by as much as £230 million by 2025.

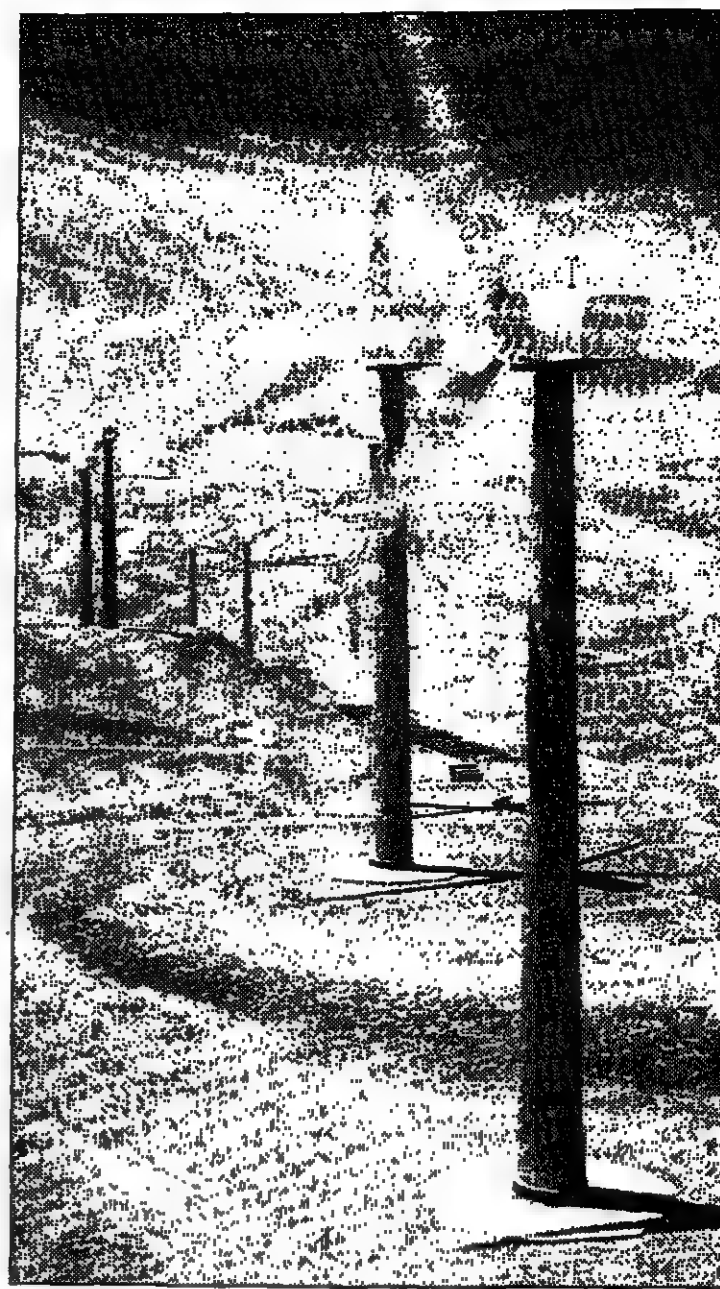
Power generation from fermenting, burning and reprocessing straw, plastics, rotting rubbish in landfills, animal manure and wood chippings could provide the equivalent of four million tonnes of coal a year at today's fuel prices.

Methane from land-fill gas is now providing the equivalent of 120,000 tonnes of coal and Government estimates put its contribution at 400,000 tonnes in five years' time. However, Government-backed programmes to use bacteria to turn animal wastes into biogas have been cancelled on cost grounds.

During the past 10 years, funding has gone into studying the possibilities of extracting energy from hot springs and underground rock. Much of the work is centred at the Camborne School of Mines in Rosemanow, Cornwall. Other possible areas include Weardale in the North east, the Lake District and the East Highlands of Scotland. If pilot plant studies set for the 1990s bear fruit, hot rocks could meet 10 per cent of the country's energy needs for 125 years.

The DoE believes energy from aquifers would account for only 350,000 tonnes of coal a year, so this area of study is unlikely to be developed further.

Rodney Hobson and Nick Nuttall



Winds of change: California's five megawatt windfarm has 20 turbines



Faith in privatization: Littlechild

A man who will have a key role in ensuring the privatized electricity industry functions in a competitive, efficient manner will have his own views put to the test: Stephen Littlechild, director general of Electricity Supply, wrote a book more than a decade ago on the fallacy of the mixed economy (Michael Hayfield writes).

From his office in Birmingham, a city where he was previously head of the University's Department of Industrial Economics and Business Studies, Professor Littlechild, will run the Independent Office of Electricity Regulation, charged with promoting competition, protecting the interest of

## Position of power with new responsibilities

the consumers and regulating the industry.

Professor Littlechild, 46, pins his faith on privatization. He will be responsible for the price control formulae which will govern supply and transmission.

He will also promote efficient use of electricity, and set standards of energy efficiency for public electricity companies. His responsibilities cover consumer protection and representation and meter reading. Professor Littlechild says that if a consumer has a complaint

about meter reading or inspection and does not get satisfaction from the distribution company, he or she can complain to one of the office's regional consumer committees. The 16 regional committees replace the industry's consultative councils, but they will have more teeth. While the consultative councils were purely advisory, the Littlechild committees have statutory powers to enforce their decisions.

Committee members have been drawn, in part, from the old

councils, but Professor Littlechild has also been keen to attract new blood and expertise.

The consumer protection role involves setting individual standards of service for tariff customers and deciding compensation levels imposed for any breaches.

The office will also lay down performance standards for public electricity suppliers and scrutinize and give approval to codes of practice on the payment of bills, on special services for the elderly

and disabled, and will offer guidance in the efficient use of electricity.

The regulatory role of the office covers many areas, including the granting of licences to new entrants into the industry. Licences for companies succeeding existing boards are granted by the Secretary of State for Energy. The office will also enforce licence conditions, including the operation of price control formulae covering transmission and supply of electricity, as well as modifica-

tion of licences by agreement or after reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

It will also fix maximum prices for the resale of electricity by landlords, and promote efficiency standards for public electricity companies.

Access to transmission and distribution systems, the monitoring of the non-fossil fuel obligation set for England and Wales and the appointment of meter examiners will be handled by the office.

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**Pirelli win Bulk Cable Supply contract for Sizewell PWR**

Pirelli General is once again at the leading edge of design, development and manufacture of new types of cable. The company have recently secured the Bulk Cable Supply contract from Nuclear Electric for the specialist cables in the UK's first pressurised water reactor power station under construction at Sizewell. The cables at the station's heart will suffer little degradation when exposed to radiation, steam, or high ambient working temperatures in order to function satisfactorily throughout its life.

**Pirelli 400kV cables at Torness**

This year saw the opening of the South of Scotland Electricity Board's new power station at Torness, which is linked to the grid system via 25km of Pirelli General's 400kV oil-filled cables. The 2500mm<sup>2</sup> conductor, aluminium sheathed cable was supplied with 60 joints and 24 sealing ends, and installed by Pirelli General's sister company Pirelli Construction Company Ltd.

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ELECTRICITY  
PRIVATIZATION/8

## FOCUS

## Nuclear to maintain a vital role

David Young reports on the revitalization of the nuclear  
power industry, which is staying in public ownership

The vesting of the two generators, 12 area boards and the grid company at the end of this month, coupled with the considerable publicity surrounding the Government's decision to keep the nuclear network in the State sector, has led many to write off nuclear power.

Yet nuclear power will still play an important part in Britain's energy market for years to come — it will provide about 17 per cent of daily base-load power and it should not be forgotten that the electricity that comes from the two power stations across the Channel is nuclear-generated.

Nuclear Electric, the company set up by the Government to run the nuclear network, will also be vested with PLC status at the end of the month and could be floated on the stock market when the economic and political climate is right. In the meantime, Nuclear Electric will operate just like the other privatized companies.

John Wakeham, Secretary of State for Energy, says: "None of this means there is any question of this Government having abandon-

ed nuclear power. On the contrary, the decision to keep the nuclear capacity within the public sector and to complete Sizewell B has clearly served to preserve the nuclear option, and nuclear power will continue to provide a substantial amount of the nation's electricity during the 1990s.

"It will also still play an important role in maintaining diversity and security, while growing concerns about global warming could yet force changes in relative energy costs, which could again make nuclear power an increasingly attractive option.

"Nuclear Electric will inherit all the nuclear assets, expertise and support currently residing in the Central Electricity Generating Board, including the CEB's rightly praised expertise in health and safety. Safety will continue to be paramount.

"The company will be a substantial one with a positive cash flow. It could provide be-

tween 15 and 20 per cent of electricity supplied in the mid-1990s and it will retain the ability to construct and operate new nuclear capacity. We want to preserve the strategic role of nuclear power in order to maintain adequate diversity of electricity supply, avoid too great a reliance on a single fuel and obtain the benefits of this environmentally clean source of energy."

Mr Wakeham adds that Nuclear Electric will have a long-term future as a supplier of electricity and should provide continuing attractive employment opportunities. The pension rights of individual staff will be protected and the privatization of the other parts of the industry will be done in such a way that the staff who remain with Nuclear Electric will have the same employee benefits in terms of share-buying schemes as their former colleagues who are moving into the private sector.

However, many involved in

Nuclear Electric are going through the second upheaval in their working lives. First they were switched from the CEB into National Power, and now they are moving into Nuclear Electric. The structure will be much as it was when it was planned to operate as a National Power division but with corporate headquarters at Barnwood, Gloucestershire, and production management centred at Bedminster Down, Bristol. There will also be offices at Knausford and at Berkeley Nuclear Laboratories and a small corporate office in London.

Mark Baker, the division's corporate affairs director, says: "The London office will be very small with no more than a handful of people. Corporate staff allocated to us will have to relocate to Barnwood or Bedminster Down. We recognize that relocation can raise real problems for staff and their families. We are offering a counselling service to help ensure

that the move goes as smoothly as possible. We will also be offering the same relocation package that National Power offers to its staff."

Nuclear Electric has moved quickly to establish its identity and its logo is becoming familiar within the industry. The symbol, designed to represent the double containment surrounding a nuclear reactor core, is intended to show the strong emphasis being placed by the division's management on safety and robustness.

John Collier, chairman of Nuclear Electric, says: "The company name shows that our role is to help meet the nation's electricity needs by generating power from nuclear sources."

Susan Lee, of Lloyd Northover, the design consultants, which created the logo and house style, says the design uses cool, muted colours with a clear, simple typeface and a solid, strong logo to symbolize reliability, robustness and safety. She says: "As we talked to managers and staff, these were the words that emerged time and again to describe the way people who worked in the industry regarded the company."



Confidence in safety: Hinkley Point runs an eel farm in its cooling waters

Scotland's two power companies, regarded as among the most efficient in Britain, will offer solid competition under privatization and will trade across the border

## Contenders in the northern market

Scotland runs its own race when it comes to power. It produces its own electricity, charges its own prices and, as with France, passes electricity across the border only on a sound commercial basis.

As a small country with a population of about five million, Scotland has only two electricity boards. Both are different from their English counterparts and are regarded as two of the most efficient and innovative in Britain.

Scottish Power, formerly the South of Scotland Electricity Board, serves most of the country's power consumers, those in the densely populated southern areas, including the industrial Central Belt. The other company is Scottish Hydro Electric, which uses the mountainous and remote terrain of the Highlands to generate power, as its name suggests, from running water. It serves nearly all the country north of the Clyde and Tay rivers, but only a tiny section of the population.

Both companies boast a robust mix of generation techniques — Hydro Electric with hydro stations, pumped storage and Peterhead's oil and gas; Scottish Power with coal stations at Longannet and Cockenzie, pump-

ed storage at Cruachan and a small hydro sector. The capacity is shared between the companies through contractual agreements.

Scottish Power's 1.7 million customers receive electricity generated mainly from nuclear sources. Much of the company's output is sold to giant industrial concerns, such as the Ravenscraig steel complex in Lanarkshire.

The most unusual feature of the two Scottish boards is that they operate their own power generation. Scottish Power owns and operates the country's two nuclear complexes, at Torness, East Lothian, and Hunterston, Ayrshire.

However, under the privatization legislation neither company will be allowed to generate nuclear power. Scotland's nuclear capacity is to be maintained through a State-owned company, Scottish Nuclear, in a bid to allay public fears concerning ownership.

Scottish Power was disappointed over the restriction, believing it has the technical expertise necessary to maintain nuclear generation under its new

commercial guise. But Donald Miller, the chairman of Scottish Power, is satisfied with the commercial terms the company has been able to negotiate. He says the company, with its wide choice of fuel, will be immune to sudden price changes. Scottish Power has drawn up contracts to sell coal-sourced output to Hydro Electric

in return for pumped storage capacity from the Cruachan hydro station in Argyll, owned by the other board.

Scottish Power will also seek customers in England and Wales through the cross-border power line, the so-called interconnector. This almost certainly will be upgraded.

Scottish Hydro Electric, previously the North of Scotland Hydro Board, will begin trading from the end of the month in the run-up to the stock market flotation. It has 25 per cent of the UK land mass in its area, but only 2 per cent of the population.

Distribution costs are high but are off-set by the extent of free fuel

— Highlands water.

Other fuel sources include oil, gas and coal. From early 1992, gas will become even more important when the output from the Miller field in the North Sea is piped ashore and burned at the Peterhead station, Aberdeenshire.

Hydro Electric says this mix of power eases problems of fuel price and supply and engineering.

The hydro source, and with it, the pumped storage capacity, gives Hydro Electric greater flexibility than its competitors. Production costs will also be low if the company can negotiate a satisfactory supply contract with Scottish Nuclear.

Hydro Electric has 596,960 customers. Almost 80 per cent of its sales are domestic and commercial. This is considered to be an advantage because it provides a stable and relatively invulnerable selling base. The management says it would be extremely difficult for other electricity companies to penetrate these sectors.

Industrial customers make up

only 19 per cent of sales, but Roger Young, Hydro Electric's chief executive, says his management team is taking a more aggressive approach to win and retain its business.

"We take the view that we must give them a deal which makes it unattractive for them to go and look for power elsewhere. We have made a point of approaching all our big industrial customers individually and saying, 'Let's start again with a clean sheet of paper in front of us and discuss contracts'."

Hydro Electric has already announced two major partnership deals south of the border. The aim is to capitalize on the English market by building gas-fired power stations on Teesside and Barking Reach in east London.

The company believes its main competition will be British Gas. Yet it says it has two advantages: firstly, it does not expect a local counter-attack from a UK-wide company and, secondly, British Gas would have to invest in new mains to gain access to a largely domestic market.

Hydro Electric has already made the investment in a complete distribution system and is now reaping the benefits.

Kerry Gill



The nuclear restriction: Scotland's Torness power plant will come under the control of a state-owned company

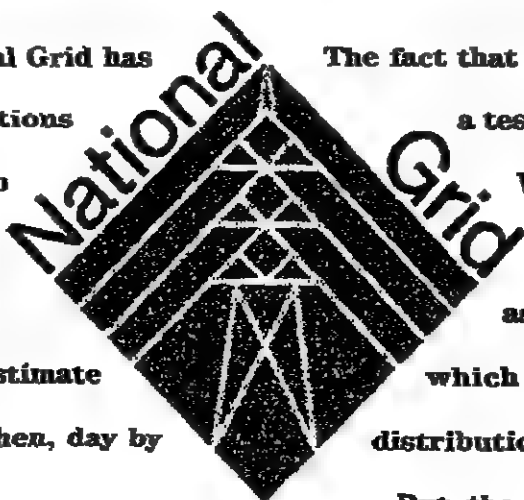
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Coordinated from  
page 39

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## Ngugi for London marathon

John Ngugi, the Olympic 5,000 metres champion, and four time winner of the world cross-country title, is to make his marathon debut in London next month (David Powell writes).

David Griffiths, the ADT London Marathon assistant race director, signed up the Kenyan at the weekend after travelling from London to Aix-les-Bains, where the world cross-country championships took place on Saturday with that specific intention.

Ngugi's name is added to a field which includes Belmeh Denimo, the holder of the world's fastest time, and Paul Davies-Hale, the British winner of the Chicago Marathon.

According to Griffiths, on information received from the athlete's coach, Ngugi is "going to try to push it in a good performance".

Griffiths does not intend to stop at Ngugi. He is trying to persuade the Kenyan to send two more athletes for the race on April 22.

Salomon Weng, the English cross-country relay champion for the second time at Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, Sale won the women's title, with Julie Holland, now fully recovered from a hit-and-run accident which sidelined her for two years, returning for the day's fastest time of 10min 19sec.

## Taylor a victim of calendar

From David Powell  
Athletics Correspondent  
Aix-les-Bains

There is more than one way to become world cross-country champion, as the contrasting victories of Khalid Skah and Lynn Jennings showed here on Saturday, but there was a common factor, too: both had run indoors this winter and the fast and flat Hippodrome racecourse was more like track racing than the British definition of cross-country.

Britain had prepared on mud and hills and the result was an ignominious ninth place for their men. Richard Nerurkar and Adrian Passey should be applauded for making the top 30, but the failure of Paul Taylor to finish underlined the chronic problem of the unsuitable British calendar. Taylor had run the English national and the British trial in the month before and knew he was too tired to perform well here.

Skah had recorded 7min 48sec for 3,000 metres indoors, and his pace proved the decisive factor as he outstripped two Kenyans, Moses Tanui and Julius Korir. After 12,200 metres, the three were separated by only two

seconds. By contrast, Jennings had broken the women's field in the first 1,000 metres and was an unchallenged winner, 12sec ahead of the runner-up, Albertina Dias, of Portugal. An eight minutes 40 seconds 3,000 metres indoors had helped her to "feel like I am breathing fire on the starting line these days".

Skah, aged 23, is not quite the unknown some would have us believe. He was among the world's fastest 5,000 metres runners last year, recording 13 minutes 17 seconds. Another Moroccan to follow Said Aouita, perhaps? "I would like to beat the world record in the 10,000 metres", Skah said. That did not sound unlikely.

John Ngugi is hoping to beat Skah to it. He said on Friday that the world 10,000

metres record was among his targets this year, but that was before he agreed to make his marathon debut in London next month.

He was complaining of tiredness after his participation in the Commonwealth Games, so his failure to win a record fifth successive title would have come as no surprise to him. In his present condition, there seems little prospect of him running a fast marathon and the attempt can surely only harm his 10,000 metres chances.

Ngugi was twentieth here, the seventh Kenyan. Achieving their fifth team win in succession, they introduced three new faces to world class. Korir, no relation to the Julius Korir who won the 1984 Olympic 5,000 metres, was third, William Mutwol, fifth

and Ibrahim Kimbia sixth. They had closed in their scoring six before Britain's first man, Nerurkar, appeared in eighth place.

The first British woman was Sonia McGeorge, who, unlike her team-mates, had also been running winter track. McGeorge was 35th but Andrea Wallace, who narrowly beat her to victory in the trial was unable to finish, suffering stomach pains.

Jennings, aged 29, had been consistently well placed in the four previous championships and was at last rewarded for sticking to the task. A freelance journalist, she had been commissioned to write an article on the race. The magazine concerned is getting two reports for the price of one in the first person and one about the first person.

### RESULTS FROM AIX-LES-BAINS

Men (12km): 1. K. Skah (Mor), 12:20.2; 2. S. Aouita (Mor), 12:21.3; 3. J. Ngugi (Ken), 12:21.4; 4. J. Korir (Ken), 12:21.5; 5. W. Mutwol (Ken), 12:21.6; 6. I. Kimbia (Ken), 12:21.7; 7. C. Passey (GB), 12:21.8; 8. R. Nerurkar (GB), 12:21.9; 9. A. Dias (Port), 12:22.0; 10. M. Tanui (Ken), 12:22.1; 11. J. Holland (GB), 12:22.2; 12. J. Korir (Ken), 12:22.3; 13. J. Ngugi (Ken), 12:22.4; 14. J. Korir (Ken), 12:22.5; 15. J. Korir (Ken), 12:22.6; 16. J. Korir (Ken), 12:22.7; 17. J. Korir (Ken), 12:22.8; 18. J. Korir (Ken), 12:22.9; 19. J. Korir (Ken), 12:23.0; 20. J. Korir (Ken), 12:23.1; 21. J. Korir (Ken), 12:23.2; 22. J. Korir (Ken), 12:23.3; 23. J. Korir (Ken), 12:23.4; 24. J. Korir (Ken), 12:23.5; 25. J. Korir (Ken), 12:23.6; 26. J. Korir (Ken), 12:23.7; 27. J. Korir (Ken), 12:23.8; 28. J. Korir (Ken), 12:23.9; 29. J. Korir (Ken), 12:24.0; 30. J. Korir (Ken), 12:24.1; 31. J. Korir (Ken), 12:24.2; 32. J. Korir (Ken), 12:24.3; 33. J. Korir (Ken), 12:24.4; 34. J. Korir (Ken), 12:24.5; 35. 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## HOCKEY

# Stourport's onward march earns them a place in the final

By Sydney Friskin

Stourport's voyage of enterprise continued to prosper yesterday when they qualified for the final of the Nationwide Anglia Cup on April 8 at Luton, where they will meet Havant.

The two semi-finals were played at separate venues, Stourport defeating Old Loughionians 4-0 at Chigwell in the afternoon and in the morning Reading losing at home 3-0 to Havant.

What a great season this has been for Stourport, who had never reached the quarter-finals before and had to

overcome both Hounslow, the holders, and Southgate. They did not have a smooth passage yesterday, having to emerge from a somewhat physical encounter with two goals in the last three minutes.

The match yielded a profusion of short corners, seven to Old Loughionians and five to Stourport, yet at the interval there was no score. In the 47th minute, Imran Sherwani converted Stourport's sixth short corner with a shot that found its way into the net off a defender's stick.

In the sixtieth minute, Rob-

erts, the Stourport centre half, was suspended for a dangerous charge and while he was off the field Stourport increased their lead through Knott's powerful shot.

Old Loughionians forced five more short corners but still derived no profit. In the last three minutes they conceded two more goals. Richard Jones, barely on the field as a substitute, scoring from a short corner and Roberts slotting the ball in from a brief tussle in front of goal.

At Reading, the home side appeared to have the better of the exchanges, forcing four short corners, compared to the three by Havant, but Rowlands in the Havant goal coped well.

Havant went ahead in the 46th minute, when Coleman broke through to score. Two minutes later, Williams set up a chance for Garcia to put the ball into an empty goal. Four minutes before the end, Reading conceded the third goal scored by Hill with a devastating flick from a short corner.

READING: N Taylor, D Barber, K McMillan, R Ryan, C Bennett, T Adley, S Tappin, M Denney (sub: T Jackson), I Pat (sub: C Keeley), C Goodman (sub: M P O'Brien).

HAVANT: S Rowlands, D Paulner, P Cooper (sub: A Cave), R Hill, P Neil, S Tappin, M Denney, R Garcia, D Williams, C Cooper, R Seabrook.

STOURPORT: S Taylor, J Lee, N Chaudry, R Lee, D Roberts, J McPhee (sub: R Jones), J Roberts, J Watson, G Carlisle (sub: P Harradine), G Knott, I Sherwani, M Graham (Northern Counties), and P Perry (Southern Counties).

## Hounslow's title in champion style

By Sydney Friskin

The first division championship in the Foundation National League was seized with authority by Hounslow on Saturday with a comprehensive 3-0 victory over Southgate at Feltham School.

With one match still to play, Hounslow cannot be overhauled. With Hounslow exerting pressure from the start, the fire in Southgate's attack was quickly extinguished. The seeds of victory were sown for Hounslow in the twentieth minute when Thompson converted a short corner with a powerful hit for his eighteenth goal of the season.

In the 27th minute, Hounslow struck another telling blow with Thompson doing the work and the unmarked Ferns driving a

strong shot into an open goal. The site of the 52nd minute when Jon Rees scored on the rebound after Simon Rees, the Southgate goalkeeper, had saved twice from the ever-dangerous Thompson.

Bill Waugh came in for Southgate at the start of the second half in place of Kerry, but although he found the mark from a short corner, the shot was ruled out as too high.

In the second division, Knapp scored all four goals for Guildford in a thrilling 4-3 win over Lyons. Breen are out of the running now for second place and it will be either Neston or Gane Court who will accompany St Albans to the first division next season.

### WEEKEND HOCKEY RESULTS

Kings' First division: New Elham 3, Bickerton 1.									
SOUTH: Club matches: Haslemere 1, Ilford 0; Haslemere 1, Haslemere 1.									
BUDAPEST: Club matches: Ashby 1, Balzer 3; Edgworth 2, Barnard 2; Tynes 2, Grantston 1; Bourne 0, Hampton in Arden 0; Hampton in Arden 1, Home Church 2; Lifford 2, Blozsch 0; Loughborough Town 0, Burton 0; Gillingham 1, Whitwick 0; Whitwick 0, Telford 0; Telford 0, Northampton 0; Northampton 0, Muncaster 4; Evesham 1; Farnham 3; Stratford 0; Stratford 0, Telford 0; Telford 0, Finchfield 0; Warwick 1; Banbury 3; Westonsley 1; Ludlow 0; Worcester 2.									
WEST: Club matches: BAC 10, Oswestry 1; Chesham 5, Kidlington 3; Esher 1, Gillingham 1; Gillingham 1, Gillingham 1;									



# Smart In Excess to sprint home

## McCourt links up with Stephenson for Aintree

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Bill O'Gorman, responsible for Saturday's Doncaster winner, Mac's Fighter, can strike again at Leicester today by winning the Loddington Stakes with In Excess. The Newmarket-trained horse, who won the corresponding race 12 months ago with Miss Blitz.

Unless a pattern of a lifetime changes, O'Gorman will, like his father, always be associated with good fast horses. Mac's Fighter apart, he has won the Superlative and Providence Stakes, and others who spring readily to mind.

Without being nearly as precocious as Providence, who won 15 races as a two-year-old for Ahmed Fousk in 1984, the same owner's In Excess still looked as though he

would develop into a smart sprinter, judged on the little we saw of him last year.

By that good French horse, Siberian Express, out of a mare by Sauleing, whose pedigree is ingrained with speed. In Excess performed well for one with comparatively little experience at Redcar last October when fourth in the very valuable Racecall Gold Trophy.

Before that he had beaten Halston Prince, a hot favourite trained by Henry Cecil, at Lingfield more easily than the judge's verdict of three-quarters of a length might suggest. None of his five rivals today can match that record, even though three of them are winners.

With Chidrey, Enharmonic and Eton Lad still standing

their ground, the Burton Overy Stakes has developed into a tricky affair.

Evaluating Eton Lad's second to Treble Eight at Newmarket last is largely guesswork, since the race was confined to horses who had never run. However, the fourth, Benzene, went on to finish third behind Candy Glen in the Gran Criterium in Milan, so the form cannot be too bad.

All the same, I still doubt Eton Lad being quite sharp enough to cope with Chidrey, who was beaten only a neck and the same in an all-aged race at Newmarket in the autumn, after having bolted home by five lengths at Folkestone first time out.

At Folkestone today, Luca Cumani's 187-horsepower sta-

ble swings into action when True Dividend contests the Rochester Graduation Stakes.

Although obviously not easy to train, this beautifully bred colt by Blushing Groom must have shown something at home because he was back down to 4-6 from 10-1 to win his only race at Ascot last autumn, and that by a stable not renowned for getting things wrong in the market.

Also, they have deemed it worthwhile persevering with a horse who is now a four-year-old maiden.

Otherwise, it should pay to follow Staunch Rival (4.15) and Jazaf (4.45) on the east Kent course as both showed the requisite promise at Leicester towards the end of last season.

For the day's best bet, though, I turn unhesitatingly to Hexham where Premier Princess is napped to win the Levy Board Novices' Handicap Hurdle over 2½ miles. Judged on recent results at Doncaster and Nottingham, she clearly appreciates the distance and loves the ground.

Also she goes well for Jason Callaghan, whose 5lb allowance will be of even greater importance now that the weights have gone up 8lb overnight. At Nottingham last Tuesday, the pair came home in perfect harmony by six lengths for which a 7lb penalty does not look excessive.

By Michael Seely, Racing Correspondent

Graham McCourt, hero of the Cheltenham Gold Cup, is to join forces with Arthur Stephenson for the Grand National at Liverpool on Saturday week.

"Chris Grant will have to choose between The Thinker and Durham Edition," said the legendary Durham trainer, who will be celebrating his seventieth birthday on Grand National day.

"Graham asked me whether he could ride at Newcastle last week. And I'm pleased to have him, as he's certainly the man in form."

Currently serving a three-day ban from riding for excessive use of the whip on Norton's Col at Cheltenham, McCourt must now be in with a sporting chance of emulating John Burke, the last jockey to land the Gold Cup-Grand National double on Royal Frolic and Rag Trade in 1976.

Last year, Grant chose Durham Edition, only to find the weather turned against him when Simon Sherwood rode The Thinker to third place behind Little Polveir, with the previous season's runner-up finishing a third in the yielding ground.

This time, Grant anxious to improve on two second places on Young Driver and Durham Edition, will be delaying his decision as late as possible. "I'll leave it as long as I'm allowed to," he said.

McCourt's decision to team up with Stephenson is certainly not to the liking of Gordon

Richards. Previously successful in the world's most demanding steeplechase with Lucius and Halo Dandy, the Cumberland trainer thought that McCourt was standing by for either Rinsus or Conclusive.

"I'm not very happy," said Richards yesterday. "It's particularly disappointing as I've put quite a few winning rides his way this season."

Neale Doughty, the stable jockey, who was previously successful on Halo Dandy in 1984, is likely to choose Rinsus, who beat The Thinker by three lengths at Haydock Park earlier this month.

Although Rinsus was a trifle lucky with Windsor falling at the last, Richards said: "Rinsus blew up as he hadn't had a race since the middle of December."

Steve Smith Eccles may now be asked to ride Conclusive, who will carry the same colours as Halo Dandy. Richard Shaw's 11-year-old, off the track since being pulled up in the Welsh National, was in the lead and travelling well when falling at the second from home at Kelso last Wednesday.

The highly-competitive nature of this year's National is shown by the fact that the first three in the betting were all winners at the National Hunt Festival. Ladbrokes go 8-1 Brown Windsor, 10-1 Call Collect, 12-1 Bismarck, 16-1 Rinsus and 20-1 Conclusive are on offer at 20-1 and 25-1 respectively.

Nicky Henderson reports that Brown Windsor is in fine shape after his win in the Cathcart

"He's just about there and will have one more gallop," said the trainer. "See You Then is also going well and could go for the Scottish Champion Hurdle."

On Saturday, Henderson was at Newbury to watch Tassellia put up an impressive performance when sprinting home by six lengths in the Brown Chamberlain Handicap Chase.

Both Toby Balding and Jenny Pitman were also in the money, Balding winning the Hoechst Panacur Mares Only Hurdle and Jenny Pitman the Spring Handicap Hurdle with Swift Waters, one of four horses that the trainer bought from Classic Thoroughbred.

Unfortunately a record number of 56 horses were withdrawn from the eight-race fixture, the absence including nine of Josh Gifford's in-bred horses.

"It's a record I'm not very proud of," said Charles Toller, the clerk of the course. "I regret it more than anyone else, but unfortunately, the ground has dried up very rapidly."

There are bare and worn patches, particularly on the hurdles course, as a result of previous meetings here, and there's nothing we were able to do about it. I'm so sorry for owners and trainers who were unable to run their horses."

Jenny Pitman will be three-handed in the Grand National with Mids's Star, Team Challenge and Gainsey. Riding plans have yet to be made. Toby Tobias will run in the Mares Cup Chase at Liverpool if ground conditions are suitable.

### LEICESTER

By Mandarin

2.00 Mr Mad.  
2.30 Valpy Perceptive.  
3.00 Patriot.  
3.30 Chidrey.  
4.00 Nussan.  
4.30 In Excess.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.00 Captain Kagar.  
2.30 Abigail's Dream.  
3.00 Eton Lad.  
4.00 Nussan.  
4.30 IN EXCESS (nap).

Michael Seely's selection: 2.00 Simmie's Special.  
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.30 CHIDREY.

### Going: good to firm

2.0 KINGSTON MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,485: 5f) (13 runners)

1 (1) 041000 ON THE LINE (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
2 (2) 041000 SHERMAN'S SPECIAL (D. Coppin) R Holliman 5-9 S Perks  
3 (3) 041000 MAGNUS LAD (B. Brownwood) T Fairhurst 5-7 K Brownwood  
4 (4) 041000 MESSY (C. Hurrell) M H Easterby 5-11 M H Easterby  
5 (5) 041000 MESSY (C. Hurrell) M H Easterby 5-11 M H Easterby  
6 (6) 041000 MESSY (C. Hurrell) M H Easterby 5-11 M H Easterby  
7 (7) 041000 MESSY (C. Hurrell) M H Easterby 5-11 M H Easterby  
8 (8) 041000 MESSY (C. Hurrell) M H Easterby 5-11 M H Easterby  
9 (9) 041000 MESSY (C. Hurrell) M H Easterby 5-11 M H Easterby  
10 (10) 041000 MESSY (C. Hurrell) M H Easterby 5-11 M H Easterby  
11 (11) 041000 MESSY (C. Hurrell) M H Easterby 5-11 M H Easterby  
12 (12) 041000 MESSY (C. Hurrell) M H Easterby 5-11 M H Easterby  
13 (13) 041000 MESSY (C. Hurrell) M H Easterby 5-11 M H Easterby

### FORM FOCUS

2.30 BILLYBON SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,485: 5f) (20 runners)

1 (1) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
2 (2) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
3 (3) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
4 (4) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
5 (5) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
6 (6) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
7 (7) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
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9 (9) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
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15 (15) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
16 (16) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
17 (17) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
18 (18) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
19 (19) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
20 (20) 041000 ORSETT (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley

### FORM FOCUS

3.00 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 7f) (8 runners)

1 (1) 041000 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 7f) (8 runners)  
2 (2) 041000 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 7f) (8 runners)  
3 (3) 041000 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 7f) (8 runners)  
4 (4) 041000 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 7f) (8 runners)  
5 (5) 041000 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 7f) (8 runners)  
6 (6) 041000 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 7f) (8 runners)  
7 (7) 041000 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 7f) (8 runners)  
8 (8) 041000 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 7f) (8 runners)

### FORM FOCUS

4.00 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)

1 (1) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
2 (2) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
3 (3) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
4 (4) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
5 (5) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
6 (6) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
7 (7) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
8 (8) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
9 (9) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
10 (10) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
11 (11) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
12 (12) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)  
13 (13) 041000 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)

### FORM FOCUS

4.30 LODDINGTON STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 2f) (8 runners)

1 (1) 041000 LODDINGTON STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 2f) (8 runners)  
2 (2) 041000 LODDINGTON STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 2f) (8 runners)  
3 (3) 041000 LODDINGTON STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 2f) (8 runners)  
4 (4) 041000 LODDINGTON STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 2f) (8 runners)  
5 (5) 041000 LODDINGTON STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 2f) (8 runners)  
6 (6) 041000 LODDINGTON STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 2f) (8 runners)  
7 (7) 041000 LODDINGTON STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 2f) (8 runners)  
8 (8) 041000 LODDINGTON STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 2f) (8 runners)

### FORM FOCUS

4.45 ASK JAZZ

1 (1) 041000 ASK JAZZ (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
2 (2) 041000 ASK JAZZ (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
3 (3) 041000 ASK JAZZ (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
4 (4) 041000 ASK JAZZ (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
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19 (19) 041000 ASK JAZZ (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley  
20 (20) 041000 ASK JAZZ (P. Savel) M H Easterby 5-11 K Darley

### Course specialists

Trainers	Runners	Per cent	Jockeys	Runners	Per cent
G. Hurrell	24	13.5	S. Gannon	138	27.2
W. H. Bass	5	10.0	A. Muir	7	25.0
C. Hurrell	18	16.7	D. Darley	14	17.5
M. Gannon	4	25.0	M. Birch	9	74.2
M. Eady	31	12.9	P. Eady	17	166.0

### FOLKESTONE

By Mandarin

1.45 Kummel King.  
2.15 Precociously.  
2.45 Lingfield Lass.  
3.15 Inwinger.  
3.45 True Dividend.  
4.15 Staunch Rival.  
4.45 Jazaf.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

1.45 Sand Castle.  
2.45 Tudor Ace.  
3.15 Sand Castle.  
3.45 True Dividend.  
4.15 Staunch Rival.  
4.45 Langtry Lass.

By Michael Seely

1.45 KUMMEL KING (nap). 4.15 Arditi.

### Going: firm

1.45 HEADCORN GRADUATION GUARANTEED SWEEPSTAKES (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (6 runners)

1 (1) 041000 CITY SOLACE (D. Carrum) R. Hannon 5-11 B. Rouse  
2 (2) 041000 GREAT AFFAIR (D. Carrum) R. Hannon 5-11 B. Rouse  
3 (3) 041000 REMANDO (M. J. Whelan) D. Carrum 5-11 B. Rouse  
4 (4) 041000 PRINCESS JESSICA (M. J. Whelan) D. Carrum 5-11 B. Rouse  
5 (5) 041000 PRINCESS JESSICA (M. J. Whelan) D. Carrum 5-11 B. Rouse  
6 (6) 041000 PRINCESS JESSICA (M. J. Whelan) D. Carrum 5-11 B. Rouse

### 2.15 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)

1 (1) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
2 (2) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
3 (3) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
4 (4) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
5 (5) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
6 (6) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
7 (7) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
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9 (9) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
10 (10) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
11 (11) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
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13 (13) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
14 (14) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)  
15 (15) 041000 ALKHAM SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (15 runners)

### 2.45 KINGSTON HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (11 runners)

1 (1) 041000 KINGSTON HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (11 runners)  
2 (2) 041000 KINGSTON HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (11 runners)  
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4 (4) 041000 KINGSTON HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (11 runners)  
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### 2.45 KINGSTON HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,060: 5f) (11 runners)

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### FORM FOCUS

3.30 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 7f) (8 runners)

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### FORM FOCUS

4.00 SIMON DE MONTFORT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,485: 1m 2f) (13 runners)

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## TENNIS

# Young Seles emerges as a new threat to Graf

From Andrew Langmore, Tennis Correspondent  
Key Biscayne, Florida

The news that Monica Seles has won the biggest title of her career at the Lipton International here will doubtless have filtered through to Steffi Graf in West Germany by now, and Graf should have an extra spring in her step as she starts to get back to full fitness this week.

Graf has always regarded Seles as one of the most likely threats to her dominance in the long term, and her prediction, on the evidence of Seles's 6-1, 6-2, victory over Judith Wiesner in a championship which is one of the richest — Seles will put \$112,500 into her piggy bank — as tough as outside the grand slam events, rings more true now.

Graf has been out of action for more than a month after injuring her right thumb in a skiing accident, and is due to make her comeback at the end of April.

She will have to be ready then, because there are queues forming to push her off her pedestal. Standing in line already are the defending French Open champion, Sánchez Vicario, Sabatini, and Fernandez, while Capriati and Seles have also moved closer to the front over the past two weeks. By the time of the French Open it could be quite a scrum, and at Wimbledon there will be Navratilova, too.

"There is a time when Steffi could be vulnerable. It will be the run-up to the French," Pam Shriver, who is now a commentator for American television, said. "Not just because of her thumb injury, but because at

the Australian Open I felt she was struggling a bit. She won it, and fairly comfortably in the end, but she didn't dominate. She has played in the past. She has played to such a high level and so intensely over the past two years, you would feel that with her injury and with others coming through she might have a couple more losses this year."

Whether they will be to Seles remains to be seen, but Shriver is sure that, on clay, at least, Seles is not far from Graf now.

There have to be questions about the importance of Seles's triumph. It will do absolutely no harm to her confidence, which was a little fragile after a disappointing start to the year, but the fact that she did not lose a set throughout the event is more a reflection on her opponents than on her.

More significant was the impression she gave after she had overpowered and outmanoeuvred the Austrian to become, at the age of 16 years and three months, the youngest winner of the Lipton. As she swept into the interview room in a black dress, hair flowing, she suddenly seemed more adult than child.

Seles is growing up, and her near flawless post-match interview, in which she thanked everyone from the ball boys to the sponsors and spectators — and, as she put it, "least but not last, myself" — showed her increasing self-assurance.

RESULTS: Women's singles final: M Seles (Yug) bt J Wiesner (Austria), 6-1, 6-2. (Yug) bt J Wiesner (Austria), 6-1, 6-2. (Yug) bt J Wiesner (Austria), 6-1, 6-2.

# Success at a stroke for lightweight eight in Boat Race

GRAHAM WOOD



Cruising home: The Cambridge lightweight women's crew on their way to victory at Henley. The favourites beat off a spirited challenge from their Oxford rivals to win by seven seconds

## Cambridge row to clean sweep

By Mike Rosewell

Cambridge swept the board in the women's and lightweight Boat Races with Oxford at Henley yesterday, winning all four contests on offer.

The day started well for Oxford when they won the toss for all four races and unhesitatingly chose the Buckinghamshire station for the downstream Henley course. This, however, was something which they might have queried later, when Cambridge's coxswains made more use of the stream in spite of the head wind.

The women's Boat Race, with Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport and former Oxford coxswain, following in the launch, saw Oxford lead by just

under a length at half distance. Cambridge, rating lower, hung on and pulled back to pass Oxford just before the Barrier. In the final minute Cambridge swept away and a spent Oxford crew lost by 10 seconds.

Moynihan also followed the women's lightweight Boat Race, where Cambridge were hot favourites and duly won by seven seconds, but a tough Oxford combination was still in contact after five minutes.

This lightweight contest was followed by an allocation when the Minister of Sport expressed his displeasure to a National Rivers Authority tug which ignored navigation instructions and came towards the crews as they approached the finish. The tug was requested to report and

investigation from the NRA and commented: "After the Marchioness disaster, water sport safety must be paramount. There was a real threat to the safety of these girls as a result of the tug ignoring the rules of the river."

Cambridge's lightweight men had little trouble in achieving their thirteenth successive win over the dark blues, an all-time record for any boat race. Leading from the start they were 14 seconds ahead by the finish.

The closest race of the day came in the women's reserve race between Blonnie, of Cambridge, and Osiris, of Oxford. Osiris held a narrow lead for two minutes until Blonnie, once again with more control than their Oxford counterparts,

edged ahead at the half distance and kept their form well to win by four seconds.

The men's Boat Race crews will be undertaking their official weigh-in today, with Christopher Heathcote, the Oxford sixth man, likely to be heaviest competitor in the race's history.

RESULTS: Women's Boat Race: Cambridge bt Oxford, 3:14 lengths, 7min 17sec. Boat Race: Cambridge bt Oxford, 2:24 lengths, 7:25. Lightweight women: Cambridge bt Oxford, 2:24 lengths, 7:25. Lightweight men: Cambridge bt Oxford, 4:16 lengths, 8:00.

RESULTS: Women's reserve race: Blonnie (Cambridge) bt Osiris (Oxford), 1:18 lengths, 1:58. Reserve men: Blonnie (Cambridge) bt Osiris (Oxford), 1:18 lengths, 1:58. Reserve women: Blonnie (Cambridge) bt Osiris (Oxford), 1:18 lengths, 1:58.

## Great Britain make a successful defence

The Great Britain squad eight successfully defended their title of the River title on Saturday (Mike Rosewell writes). The squad moved clearly away from the chasing London University, rowing without their injured Olympian, Anton Obolov, but it was a Nottingham County second crew, composed of four Nottingham members and five Soviet Union internationals, who impressed, in spite of limited practice together.

With a livelier rate generally than the squad, the second crew finished seven seconds behind them and 11 seconds ahead of Nottingham 4, including seven of the lightweight crew who won at Henley last summer.

The Cambridge Boat Race

crew, racing as Goldie, dropped from fifth to eighth, 32 seconds behind the squad, who had also dealt harshly with Oxford last Wednesday. Isis, the Oxford reserves who beat Cambridge at Reading, were 20 seconds behind in the heat, but started on slacker water at No. 322.

RESULTS: 1. Great Britain National (Great Britain), 17:12.2; 2. ULI (Women Trophy), 17:18.7; 3. Nottingham, 17:22.7; 4. Isis, 17:35.2; 5. Isis, 17:35.2; 6. Isis, 17:35.2; 7. Isis, 17:35.2; 8. Isis, 17:35.2; 9. Isis, 17:35.2; 10. Isis, 17:35.2.

## High-style starters for those on cable

The curtain rises tomorrow on yet another television sports channel: BS2. It will provide the third "total sports" station and the eighth in Britain that will feature sport at some stage during the week. If the fixtures are slightly mixed — until April 29, BS2 reaches only homes with a cable link — it is certainly starting in high style.

The whole of England's match with Brazil, as it happens at Wembley on Wednesday, is BS2's first football exclusive (the BBC gets the highlights), and it is followed, immediately after at Wembley are sent, by Scotland v Argentina (highlights on TV).

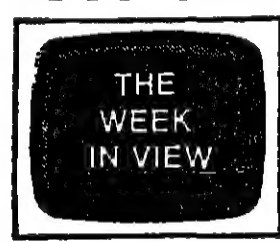
Then on Sunday (1.30pm), BS2 cameras will show whether being chosen as Europe's City of Culture has had any deep or lasting effect on either the divided Glasgow supporters or the players of Rangers and Celtic.

As Vic Wakefield, who is charged with bringing updated sports news programmes five times a day, seven days a week, to BS2 screens, says: "Not bad for starters." Not bad, indeed. And, as competition for our attention becomes even hotter, there is more to come.

BS2 will be showing the Masters live from Augusta on all four days next month and will have similar cover of two other golf majors, the US Open and the US PGA.

I once knew a man who attended neither Oxford nor Cambridge, yet every year he would bet on Oxford, wear a Dark Blue scarf and cheer them on whether at Twickenham, Lord's, Wembley or the Thames.

Millions who have no alle-



Ken Lawrence's guide to the best of the week's sport on television

glance will be watching and cheering for Light Blue or Dark Blue on Saturday when Harry Carpenter, hoping no doubt for sunshine and calm water, once again introduces the Boat Race (BBC1, 4pm).

Should he reach the indecisive end of John Snagall's those years ago — he cried in desperation, "I cannot see who is in the lead; it is either Oxford or Cambridge?" — Carpenter will have the seasoned eye of Chris

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## THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

TUESDAY: Motor racing: After 94 hours, Murray Walker can word perfect with the highlights from the Grand Prix in São Paulo (BBC1, 4pm).  
WEDNESDAY: Sportsweek: England beating, one hopes, Brazil at football and the West Indies at cricket in the one programme gives this one the edge on a busy night (BBC1, 10.20pm).

THURSDAY: Motor racing: The Indy 500 is always edge-of-the-seat stuff. The 1989 highlights are just as good as the 1988. (BBC1, 8pm).  
FRIDAY: Football: Bobby Moore in Sport on Friday looking back at the 1966 World Cup and forward to the year. David Lee's sports programme with some racing and a season car racing. (BBC1, 8.20pm).

SATURDAY: Grandstand: From Rugby League's Cup semi-final to the Boat Race, an all-action afternoon not to be missed (BBC1, 12.15pm).  
SUNDAY: The Match: Can Manchester City put a brake on Aston Villa's unconvincing bid for the League championship? We shall see (ITV, 3.30pm).

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated  
FOOTBALL  
GNI Vauxhall Conference  
Birmingham v Yeovil  
Bristol Rovers v Yeovil  
Bristol Rovers v Yeovil

OTHER SPORT  
BOWLS: Ely Masters.  
BOXING: British bantamweight eliminator: Dennis Hoyle v Kevin Winstanley (Prosperity Inn, Glasgow).  
MOTORCYCLING: Speedway Gold Cup: Reading v Kings Lynn; Wolves v Coventry; Challenge: Exeter v Long Eaton.  
RUGBY: World Championship final qualifying rounds (Preston).

## SPORT ON TV

ATHLETICS: European 11am-midday: Highlights of the women's cross-country race from the 1989 World Championships in Stuttgart.  
BASEBALL: Screenport 3.30-5pm: Highlights from the 1989 World Series.  
BASKETBALL: Screenport 8.30-10.10pm: Highlights of the ACC championship.  
BOXING: Screenport 7-8.30pm: Professional event from the United States: Prospect 9-10pm: Superbouts: Leonard v Bantzler from Las Vegas.  
EQUESTRIANISM: European 4-5pm: "Horse Show".  
RUGBY UNION  
WHITBREAD YOKESHIRE CUP: First round (5.15): Bradford and Bingley v

## SWIMMING

## Barnet are beaten for speed

By Craig Lord

An experienced team of sprinters from The Netherlands took the steam out of the British contingent at the Speedo fast-water meeting in Barnet on Saturday.

Jolanda de Rover, the 1984 women's Olympic 200 metres backstroke champion, led the strong Dutchin club to victory over the home team, Barnet Copthall, leaving a much weakened City of Birmingham, the winners last year, trailing in fifth.

The fast-water meeting, at which there are 30-metre races in each stroke and relays, with the times from all events combined to give a team result, was designed to attract television coverage by providing viewers with close finishes.

Austyn Shortman, of Bristol, won the English-swimmer-of-the-meeting title in the 100 metres freestyle at the weekend, to help England to a 100 metres freestyle win with 159 points, 29 points clear of Scotland. Ireland finished third with 89 points and Wales fourth with 81. Shortman won the 100 metres freestyle in 1:11.3sec, the 100 metres backstroke in a time of 58.96sec.

Terri Denison has been voted the swimming coach of the year. Denison, of Leeds, coaches Adrian Marlowe, the 100 metres backstroke world record holder.

CUMBERLAND: Speedo schools championships: Senior boys: 100m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1:11.3; 200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 2:21.1; 400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 4:42.1; 800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 9:51.1; 1,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 19:51.1; 3,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 39:51.1; 6,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 79:51.1; 12,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 159:51.1; 25,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 319:51.1; 51,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 639:51.1; 102,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1279:51.1; 204,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 2559:51.1; 409,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 5119:51.1; 819,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 10239:51.1; 1,638,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 20479:51.1; 3,276,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 40959:51.1; 6,553,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 81919:51.1; 13,107,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 163839:51.1; 26,214,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 327679:51.1; 52,428,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 655359:51.1; 104,857,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1310739:51.1; 209,715,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 2621479:51.1; 419,430,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 5242879:51.1; 838,860,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 10485739:51.1; 1,677,721,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 20971579:51.1; 3,355,443,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 41943079:51.1; 6,710,886,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 83886079:51.1; 13,421,772,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 167772179:51.1; 26,843,545,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 335544379:51.1; 53,687,091,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 671088679:51.1; 107,374,182,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 134217779:51.1; 214,748,364,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 268435479:51.1; 429,496,729,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 536870979:51.1; 858,993,459,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 107374179:51.1; 1,717,986,918,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 214748379:51.1; 3,435,973,836,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 429496779:51.1; 6,871,947,673,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 858993479:51.1; 13,743,895,347,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1717986779:51.1; 27,487,790,694,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 3435973779:51.1; 54,975,581,388,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 6871947779:51.1; 109,951,162,777,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1374389779:51.1; 219,902,325,555,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 2748779779:51.1; 439,804,651,110,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 5497558779:51.1; 879,609,302,220,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 10995116779:51.1; 1,759,218,604,441,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 21990232779:51.1; 3,518,437,208,883,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 4398046779:51.1; 7,036,874,417,766,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 8796093779:51.1; 14,073,748,835,532,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1759218779:51.1; 28,147,497,671,065,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 3518437779:51.1; 56,294,995,342,131,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 7036874779:51.1; 112,589,990,684,262,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1407374779:51.1; 225,179,981,368,524,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 2814749779:51.1; 450,359,962,737,049,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 5629499779:51.1; 900,719,925,474,099,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1125899779:51.1; 1,801,439,850,948,198,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 2251799779:51.1; 3,602,879,701,896,396,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 4503599779:51.1; 7,205,759,403,792,793,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 9007199779:51.1; 14,411,518,807,585,587,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1801439779:51.1; 28,823,037,615,171,174,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 3602879779:51.1; 57,646,075,230,342,348,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 7205759779:51.1; 115,292,150,460,684,697,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1441151779:51.1; 230,584,300,921,369,395,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 2882303779:51.1; 461,168,601,842,738,790,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 5764607779:51.1; 922,337,203,685,477,580,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1152921779:51.1; 1,844,674,407,370,955,161,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 2305843779:51.1; 3,689,348,814,741,910,323,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 4611686779:51.1; 7,378,697,629,483,822,646,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 9223372779:51.1; 14,757,395,258,967,645,292,800m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1844674779:51.1; 29,514,790,517,935,291,585,600m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 3689348779:51.1; 59,029,581,035,870,583,171,171,200m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 7378697779:51.1; 118,059,162,071,741,166,342,342,400m freestyle: A. Shortman (Bristol), 1475739779:51.1; 236,118,324,143,482,684,684,800m freestyle: A. 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## SPORT

## England face their first crisis

From Alan Lee  
 Cricket Correspondent  
 Port of Spain

The weather factor, already a strong influence in this Test series, turned on England in untimely fashion yesterday. A wet morning and a delayed start on a pitch enlivened by sweating under cover, cost England much of the advantage for which they had worked so assiduously on the first two days.

It was bad enough that Graham Gooch's selfless vigil, spanning six and a half hours and three playing days, ended in the first over with the captain 16 runs short of a century he richly deserved.

But in mid-afternoon England were confronting their first crisis of this Cable and Wireless series as they lost three wickets in four balls with their lead a fragile 15 runs.

The wickets were taken by fast bowling, from Bishop and Moseley, of a belief and intensity which recalled the familiar English horrors in recent series. It was as if West Indies had suddenly awoken to the notion that not just another match but the entire series was slipping away from them. They reacted in a manner which throws ominous new light on the cricket still to come.

The clouds were grey and low over the northern hills by breakfast time and, an hour before the start, rain set in with a will. As invariably happens on this island, it promised more than it produced and play began 20 minutes before lunch, 25 overs having been subtracted from the day's allocation.

Gooch resumed on 83 and added only one more before falling to the fifth ball of Bishop's opening over. For much of Saturday Bishop had bowled within himself but now, encouraged by the moisture in the pitch, he raced in venomously and Gooch, playing back, connected with the thinnest of edges to Dujon.

Lamb and Smith both lived dangerously until lunch but for 40 minutes afterwards they played with the calm assurance which epitomized their partnership of 172 in Kingston. The lead expanded, run by invaluable run, until the collapse which changed the game.

Smith was first to go, playing forward and beaten by unsuspected lift. It gave Dujon his fourth catch of the innings and, more significantly, Moseley his first wicket in a Test career which he must have consigned to his list of unfulfilled ambitions when he set off for South Africa.

A drinks interval followed which may have done little for Rob Bailey's nerves as he approached his second Test, 18 months after his first. Moseley dropped short, Bailey, unprepared, threw up a defensive arm and the ball looped off his glove to Logie and the ever-willing Russell to short-leg.



Dance of delight: the West Indies fielders celebrate as Gooch is caught behind off Ambrose after his lengthy innings

## SCOREBOARD FROM TRINIDAD

England won toss

West Indies	First Innings
C G Greenidge c Stewart b Moseley	50
D L Haynes c Lamb b Small	10
R B Richardson c Russell b Fraser	10
C A Best c Lamb b Fraser	10
T P J L Dujon b Small	10
L L Logie c Lamb b Fraser	10
E A Moseley c Russell b Moseley	10
C E L Ambrose c Russell b Moseley	10
I R Bishop b Moseley	10
C A Welsh not out	10
Extras (to 4, nb 7)	10
Total (85.1 overs, 318 runs)	198

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-5, 3-22, 4-27, 5-28, 6-42, 7-52, 8-105, 9-177.

BOWLING: Small 17-4-41-2; Moseley 20-3-30-4 (nb 1); 4; Fraser 12.1-2-41-3 (nb 3); Capel 15-2-33-1 (nb 1).

England

England	First Innings
G A Gooch c Dujon b Bishop	84
W Lams c Dujon b Ambrose	9
A J Stewart c Dujon b Ambrose	9
A J Lamb b Bishop	9
R A Smith c Dujon b Moseley	9
R Bailey c Logie b Moseley	9
D J Capel not out	9
T R Russell not out	9
Extras	9
Total (wickets, 100 overs)	227

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-112, 2-125, 3-195, 4-214, 5-214, 6-214.

Umpires: C Cumberbatch and L Barber.

If this was a sad moment, an undeniably more damaging one was looming. The second ball of Bishop's new over was short, mean and extremely quick. Lamb got in a tangle taking his eye off the ball; it rose less than expected and hit him on the helmet before dropping onto the stumps.

England's assurance at 195 for two, had now become acute anxiety at 214 for six and suddenly it was down to Capel, patently out of form, and the ever-willing Russell to ensure that two days of hard labour was not completely laid to waste.

Saturday had seen Gooch in single-minded mood. He took the view that England needed him to bat all day and, to that end, he eliminated all risks from his game, confining himself to two controlled pulls and ignoring anything short on the off-side.

It did not make for exciting viewing - indeed one Trinidad Sunday newspaper labelled it "one of the least

memorable days in the history of cricket on this ground" but, for the England captain, it was another phase of the plan successfully concluded.

This was not the first time, he has batted his attacking instincts to this way for England. The first Test he captained was at the Oval in 1988 and the parallels are uncanny. Against the same opposition he began batting at roughly the same time on Friday evening and made exactly the same score, only in 40 minutes longer. Then, his runs came in a defeat. This time, they were made with a more positive purpose in mind.

Up in the top deck of the pavilion, Ted Dexter, chairman of the England committee, watched Saturday's proceedings with scarcely concealed surprise. He had arrived on the island on Friday and, on being told that the Test score was 103 for eight, gloomily assumed that England were batting.

● CALCUTTA: Cricket officials from India and West Indies aim to resolve a misunderstanding over a tour involving the two teams when they meet in London in June (Reuters reports). The issue to be settled is whether West Indies tour India in the 1990-91 season or the Indians go to the Caribbean. Bismathan Dutt, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, said he expected the misunderstanding to be cleared up at the International Cricket Council annual meeting in London on June 28.

## Cutting the cloth to suit a captain

Port of Spain

By the time play was brought to a slightly premature halt on Saturday night, England had worked hard to get themselves close to West Indies' first innings total for the loss of only two wickets.

Most discussion thereafter was concerned as to the rate of England's progress through the day, and whether England would not have been better served by a certain acceleration in the scoring rate as the day wore on.

Whereas Graham Gooch would no doubt have been delighted to oblige, one must not forget that the Queen's Park pitch and the West Indian bowlers were other factors very much involved. For a side to score runs quickly in a Test match usually requires a good batting strip and a modicum of gratuitous assistance from the bowlers.

Neither was in evidence in Trinidad. The pitch has certainly eased markedly since the first morning, but does not possess the pace or bounce to encourage free stroke play, and the bowling was also noticeably more determined than on the previous afternoon. It is with these points in mind that we must judge England and Gooch in particular.

The England captain's studied concentration must not be



David Gower

The former England captain comments on the third Test

undervalued, and indeed we will probably be able to judge the value of his contribution more easily as the match develops. Gooch has had to adapt his batting style and ambitions to cope both with the conditions at Queen's Park and with the fact that he is now nine years older than when he first toured out here with the full England side.

At the end of that tour on the quicker, truer turf of Sabina Park he played the quickest West Indies bowlers to all parts of the ground in his first innings 153, with any errors of line or length being hammered severely.

Nowadays, Gooch, like many before him, accepts that he cannot simply turn the clock back and emulate his own earlier batting feats, and he has limited his ambitions accordingly. This batting equivalent of cutting one's cloth does not make him any less a player, as his outstanding form on this tour has proved, and against lesser attacks it is a certainty that much of his old aggression will quickly emerge.

## Brazilian banana shot earns the fruits of victory

By Stuart Jones  
 Football Correspondent

Chelsea	1
Middlesbrough	0

Chelsea, whose season initially promised much, have at least collected a consolation prize. At Wembley yesterday they regained, as expected, the trophy that was known as the Full Members' Cup when they won the inaugural competition in 1986 and is now entitled the Zenith Data Systems Cup.

Their goal would have illuminated any fixture in the national stadium but the final was largely a dull affair. Dorigo's free kick, curled in as expertly as if it were being hit by a Brazilian, shone like a shaft of golden sunlight across a sky which, but for a temporary clearing in the second half, was otherwise grey.

Middlesbrough, though, cannot be criticized for their contribution on their debut at Wembley. Severely depleted by the loss, among others, of Mowbray, their leading figure, they performed beyond their years. Though their average age was a mere 24, they matched their supposedly superior opponents in all but one area.

Their attack was substantially the weaker. Ripley, who moves with all the elegance of a frightened giraffe, and Slaven, who has temporarily lost the art of scoring (his barren sequence has been extended to eight games) were comparative dwarfs frolicking in the shadow of two foreign giants, Johnsen and Monks.

The central defenders have recently strengthened Chelsea's security. At times embarrassingly vulnerable when Roberts was employed with them in the sweeper system, they have been principally responsible for the fixture's unbeaten run of nine fixtures. Chelsea never appeared to be flustered or in deep trouble at the back.

Beasant, returning to the scene of his FA Cup triumph with Wimbledon two years ago, was not required to make a save of note throughout the afternoon. Yet Middlesbrough, industrious in mid-field and efficient in defence, protected their own goalkeeper from the likes of Dixon, Durie and Wilson.

Arrests at Cup final

Several police officers were injured and 68 football supporters arrested yesterday during the Zenith Data Systems Cup final.

Among the police casualties was a WPC and a Chief Inspector. Three motorcycle officers suffered minor injuries when they were pulled from their vehicles during the skirmishes and a Chief Inspector was struck in the face with a brick.

Police said that just before the 3 pm kick-off WPC Bernadette Wilson had her wrist broken when she was assaulted by thugs. All 68 arrests were for public order offences.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Richard Wells, in charge of the police operation, spoke of sporadic incidents but was satisfied with the day.

Proctor and Brennan lost nothing in comparison with Nicholas (though he was officially voted the man of the match) and Burnstead in central midfield. Nor did McGee, aged 19, who a few weeks ago was not assured of a place in the reserves, look lost on the right flank.

But although they contained Chelsea, the comparative novices could not damage them. Only when a cross driven by Slaven flew towards the shins of the unguarded Davenport did an equalizer seem remotely possible. The opportunity came too awkwardly, too quickly and, in an instant, was lost.

Dorigo, who could find himself appearing for England against the Brazilians on Wednesday, decided the match in the 25th minute. Coleman, equal in stature to Dixon, was adjudged to have pushed him a few yards outside the area. Nicholas lingered over the possibility before allowing the left back to strike the free kick.

It could scarcely have been measured more finely. But against the wall, it grazed the fingertips of Pears before entering the top left-hand corner of the net. Five minutes later, Dorigo attempted to curl another free kick towards the other post but Middlesbrough's goalkeeper, though initially unsuspecting, intervened in time.

On only one other occasion was he disturbed. An intended back-pass, under-hit by Kerraghan on the boot, allowed Durie to intrude but Pears blocked his path. The crowd of 76,369, the largest for the competition in the five years of its much-criticized existence, was otherwise of fixed little entertainment.

Nicholas accepted as much after he had lifted the cup and his own personal award. "It was a pity the match wasn't better," he said. "But we won and that's what matters." The spectators, all seated for the first time at Wembley, should witness an appreciably more appealing spectacle on Wednesday. Bring on the Brazilians.

CHelsea: D Beasant; G Hall, A Dorigo, Burnstead, E Johnson, K Monk, J McMillen, P Nicholas, K Dean, G Duffell, Wilson.

MIDdlesbrough: S Pears; G Potts, C Cooper, A Kerraghan, S Coleman, O McGee, S Slaven, M Crocker, S Poyson, M Brennan, P Davenport.

Referee: R Millard.

## Illingworth's hundred lifts England A out of trouble

From Richard Streetes, Harare

A dogged hundred by Richard Illingworth, the night-watchman, lifted England A from the doldrums here yesterday as a rare potential crisis loomed against Zimbabwe on the second day of the third international.

Though the tempo was once again slow, it was the most absorbing and evenly contested day in the series. England finished 48 runs ahead, with five first-innings wickets in hand.

This was the second century Illingworth has made, and, curiously, his undefeated 120 for Worcestershire against Warwickshire at New Road in 1987 was also scored after being sent in as a night-watchman.

However, he has always been harder to dislodge than most tail-enders and, on this occasion, he played with remarkable confidence and looked a fully-equipped batsman.

On Saturday, Zimbabwe had been dismissed for 149. Using their height well to utilize the extra lift available, Iglesden, who finished with five wickets, and Watkin were

the Englishmen to reap the most benefit.

England were left to face an awkward three overs at the end of the day, and off the third ball of the first of these, Darren Bicknell was caught at short leg, which brought short leg.

From the resumption yesterday, Illingworth played several positive strokes and claimed 43 of the 75 runs England scored before lunch.

By then a subdued Stephen had been caught at mid-on, trying to lift Traicos into the deep field, and Blakey had been given out, caught at slip, off his arm guard.

Immediately after lunch, Whitaker fended off a short-pitched ball off the spine and Andy Flower, the wicketkeeper, moved several yards sideways and clung to a spectacular left-handed catch. It left England 85 for four and Flower with a damaged thumb. Houghton took over as wicketkeeper. Nicholas promptly dropped anchor, even when Illingworth lost momentum, and England managed 50 runs in the afternoon session.

## Hadlee in party for England tour

Wellington, New Zealand (AP) - Richard Hadlee, the all-rounder who earlier this month announced his retirement from cricket, made himself available for New Zealand's coming tour of England on Saturday.

Hadlee and John Wright, who had reserved his decision on whether to tour, were named in a 16-man squad. The team includes three uncapped players: Adam Parore, the reserve wicketkeeper, Mark Priest, the Canterbury

all-rounder, Mark Priest and Jonathan Millmow, the promising fast bowler.

Wright will skipper the team with key batsman Martin Crowe returning after injury.

NEW ZEALAND PARTY: J G Wright (captain), M D Crowe (vice-captain), J G Branswell, J J Crowe, T J Franklin, M J Greatbatch, R J Hadlee, A H Jones, J P Milne, D K Morrison, A Parore, M Priest, K R Sutherland, I D S Smith, M C Swenden, S Thomson.

● CALCUTTA: Mohammed Azharuddin was named captain on Saturday for India's tour of England, which starts

Nicholas edged a catch to first slip when Zimbabwe took a new ball at 164 in the 86th over, having stayed three hours for 38.

Illingworth reached 102 out of 187 after five hours 37 minutes, with nine fours, and was still there at the end.

ZIMBABWE: First Innings  
 G Flower c Blakey b Iglesden 21  
 G Goodwin c Whitaker b Iglesden 24  
 A Flower c Whitaker b M Bicknell 36  
 A Klinger not out 15  
 D L Houghton b Watkin 29  
 C Robertson c M Bicknell b Illingworth 12  
 S Peterson c Whitaker b Illingworth 4  
 E Brandes lbw Iglesden 12  
 M Davies not out 10  
 A J Traicos c Flower b Watkin 10  
 K G Diers c and b Iglesden 10  
 Extras (11, 1b 3, w 5, nb 3) 12  
 Total 149

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-40, 3-70, 4-85, 5-108, 6-123, 7-123, 8-146, 9-148.

BOWLING: Iglesden 20-7-43-4; M P Bicknell 10-4-35-1; Watkin 25-9-43-2; Stephenson 4-1-6-0; Illingworth 22-12-28-2.

ENGLAND A: First Innings  
 D J Bicknell c Goodwin b Brandes 0  
 J P Stephenson c Brandes b Traicos 24  
 A J Flower c Whitaker b Traicos 106  
 R J Bailey c Poynter b Brandes 6  
 J J Whitaker c A Flower b Brandes 2  
 M C J Nicholas c Goodwin b Brandes 38  
 G P Thorpe not out 17  
 Extras (to 4) 14  
 Total (5 wickets) 197

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-70, 3-81, 4-85, 5-171.

BOWLING: Brandes 20-7-58-4; Traicos 17-13-55-1; Jarvis 20-4-58-0; Diers 18-5-31-0.

## Smith consolidates his lead but refuses another gamble

By Malcolm McKeag

Lawrie Smith and his crew aboard Rothmans spent the weekend consolidating the lead their original plan has given them on the fifth leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race.

At midday yesterday, Rothmans was 75 miles ahead of Steinlager 2, beating into a moderate north-easterly breeze - conditions ideally suited to the British sloop, designed by Rob Humphreys, which is now in the strongest position it has enjoyed so far in the race.

Smith leap-frogged the bulk of the Maxi division yachts by taking Rothmans out to the extreme eastern flank of the fleet. There he found a private weather pattern which gave him the chance to jump in front of the rest, but now he has done so he appears content to bank his winnings and take no more gambles.

Employing the classically conventional tactic - always stay between the opponent and the next mark - Smith

has brought Rothmans back westwards to position himself between the fleet and the next important turning point of the course, Recife, at the eastern tip of South America.

Meanwhile, Peter Blake, in Steinlager, has a race on his hands to retain second place: Fisher & Paykel, Merit, NCB Ireland and UBF are all within 50 miles of the former leader. With the wind coming from ahead and the yachts forced to zig-zag their way towards Recife, Blake's task is more difficult.

If those behind him split tactics (some zig one way, some zag the other), he must choose who to stay with and who to let go. Another change of wind direction could then allow those whom he lets go sail round him, as did Rothmans. For Blake, it is like playing chess against four opponents simultaneously; Smith, with the advantage of his extra distance, is not so hard-pressed.

Yet there are still 3,700

miles to go, and the windless doldrums to cross. Rothmans may slow as she reaches the zone, allowing the others to catch up. This is exactly what happened to Titosun Lamazou when sailing the same route last month in the Globe race, but Lamazou got through the Doldrums first, found wind again, and accelerated away. Smith will be hoping for similar fortune.

LATEST POSITIONS (compiled at 1800 GMT, with race to Port Landau scheduled for 1990): Rothmans, GB, 3,678; 2, Steinlager 2 (P Blake), NZ, 3,678; 3, Fisher & Paykel (P Blake), NZ, 3,761; 4, Merit (P Farnham), NZ, 3,761; 5, NCB Ireland (J England), GB, 3,807; 6, UBF Ireland (C Ingham), GB, 3,807; 7, Belmont (J Farnham), NZ, 3,807; 8, The Card (R Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 9, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 10, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 11, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 12, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 13, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 14, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 15, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 16, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 17, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 18, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 19, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822; 20, Sampo (J Nelson), NZ, 3,822.

## Kingston add National Cup to trophy haul

Kingston, who had beaten the holders, Bracknell Tigers, in the semi-final, added the Coca-Cola National Basketball Cup to their season's trophy haul when they humbled Sunderland 103-78 in yesterday's final at the London Arena.

With only the Carlsberg championship play-offs to come, Kevin Cadie's squad can gain a monopoly. It has already won the Carlsberg League, the NatWest Trophy and the WICB.

## Halmai survives poor start to take the title

Steve Halmai, of Paddington, won the Sun Life English Bowls Players Association singles championship at Wellingborough yesterday, beating Eric Ramsdale, of Darlington, 7-3, 7-6, in the final (David Rhys Jones writes).

Halmai, a trader in futures and options in the City, and a regular member of the national bowls team, scraped through his first two games against Stan Lant, of New-

castle, and Duncan Hayne, of Bodmin.

But he had little difficulty in despatching Mike Langley, of Cambridge, Chesterton, in the semi-final.

Ramsdale had started strongly, beating the players' president, David Bryant, of Clevedon, in straight sets in his opening match, and won a thrilling quarter-final against Steve Palmer, of Ely, an England player.